

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9982

To require the Office of Children’s Health Protection to be maintained within the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2024

Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. BUSH, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Office of Children’s Health Protection to be maintained within the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Children’s Health Pro-
5 tection Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROTECTION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Envi-
3 ronmental Protection Agency shall maintain, within the
4 Agency, the Office of Children's Health Protection.

5 (b) DIRECTOR.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed
7 by a director.

8 (2) APPOINTMENT.—The Director of the Office
9 shall be appointed by, and report to, the Adminis-
10 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency. In
11 making such appointment, the Administrator shall
12 take into consideration the recommendations of the
13 Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee.

14 (3) CO-CHAIR OF PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE.—
15 The Administrator of the Environmental Protection
16 Agency shall delegate to the Director of the Office
17 responsibility to serve as Co-Chair, on behalf of the
18 Administrator, of the President's Task Force on En-
19 vironmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Chil-
20 dren established by Executive Order 13045 (62 Fed.
21 Reg. 19885 et seq.).

22 (c) DUTIES.—The Director of the Office shall—

23 (1) identify and assess environmental health
24 risks and safety risks that may disproportionately
25 affect infants, children, and adolescents;

1 (2) work to ensure that Federal policies, pro-
2 grams, activities, and standards address dispro-
3 portionate risks to infants, children, and adolescents
4 that result from environmental health risks or safety
5 risks, including consideration of the unique environ-
6 mental justice concerns affecting infants, children,
7 and adolescents;

8 (3) coordinate Federal research and programs,
9 including grant programs, to advance the activities
10 described in paragraphs (1) and (2); and

11 (4) carry out national activities to—

12 (A) reduce negative environmental impacts
13 on infants, children, and adolescents through
14 involvement in rulemaking, policy, enforcement
15 actions, research, and applications of science
16 that focuses on prenatal and childhood
17 vulnerabilities;

18 (B) help protect infants, children, and ado-
19 lescents through promoting and issuing guid-
20 ance for safe chemicals management;

21 (C) coordinate community-based programs
22 to eliminate threats to infants', children's, and
23 adolescents' health;

24 (D) increase the environmental health lit-
25 eracy of health care providers through support

1 of pediatric environmental health specialty
2 units;

3 (E) evaluate and communicate trends in
4 environmental contaminants that may con-
5 tribute to childhood disease;

6 (F) develop and publish resources for local
7 educational agencies to establish, maintain, or
8 enhance a school environmental health program;
9 and

10 (G) otherwise protect infants, children, and
11 adolescents from environmental health risks or
12 safety risks.

13 (d) TRANSITION.—The Administrator of the Environ-
14 mental Protection Agency shall make such changes to the
15 Office of Children’s Health Protection of the Environ-
16 mental Protection Agency, as in existence on the day be-
17 fore the date of enactment of this Act, as may be nec-
18 essary for such Office to become the Office required by
19 subsection (a).

20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
21 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
22 \$7,842,000 for fiscal year 2025 and each subsequent fiscal
23 year.

1 **SEC. 3. CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ADVISORY COM-**
2 **MITTEE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the En-
4 vironmental Protection Agency shall maintain an advisory
5 committee, to be known as the Children's Health Protec-
6 tion Advisory Committee, to—

7 (1) provide advice and recommendations to the
8 Administrator and other officials of the Environ-
9 mental Protection Agency regarding the programs
10 and activities of the Office;

11 (2) advise the Administrator and other officials
12 of the Environmental Protection Agency on regula-
13 tions, research, and communications related to in-
14 fant's, children's and adolescent's health; and

15 (3) support the Environmental Protection
16 Agency, including the Office, in implementing under
17 Executive Order 13045 and other issues related to
18 infants', children's, and adolescents' health protec-
19 tion as deemed appropriate by the Administrator.

20 (b) APPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Children's
21 Health Protection Advisory Committee shall be subject to
22 the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), ex-
23 cept that the Children's Health Protection Advisory Com-
24 mittee shall be a permanent advisory committee and shall
25 not terminate under section 14 of such Act.

1 (c) TRANSITION.—The President, acting through the
2 Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency,
3 shall make such changes to the Children’s Health Protec-
4 tion Advisory Committee established pursuant to Execu-
5 tive Order 13045 (62 Fed. Reg. 19885; April 23, 1997)
6 as may be necessary for such Advisory Committee to be-
7 come the advisory committee required by this section.

8 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) The term “Children’s Health Protection Ad-
11 visory Committee” means the advisory committee
12 maintained pursuant to section 3.

13 (2) The term “local educational agency” has
14 the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of
15 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

17 (3) The term “Office” means the Office of Chil-
18 dren’s Health Protection maintained pursuant to
19 section 2.

20 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 To carry out this Act, there is authorized to be appro-
22 priated \$13,200,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
23 2029.

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