

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 453

To study the high rate of cancer among children in Dover Township, New Jersey, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 1997

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To study the high rate of cancer among children in Dover Township, New Jersey, 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 “Michael Gillick Child-
5 hood Cancer Research Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) during the period from 1980 to 1988,
9 Ocean County, New Jersey, had a significantly high-
10 er rate of childhood cancer than the rest of the Unit-

1 ed States, including a rate of brain and central nerv-
2 ous system cancer that was nearly 70 percent above
3 the rate of other States;

4 (2) during the period from 1979 to 1991—

5 (A) there were 230 cases of childhood can-
6 cer in Ocean County, of which 56 cases were in
7 Dover Township, and of those 14 were in Toms
8 River alone;

9 (B) the rate of brain and central nervous
10 system cancer of children under 20 in Toms
11 River was 3 times higher than expected, and
12 among children under 5 was 7 times higher
13 than expected; and

14 (C) Dover Township, which would have
15 had a nearly normal cancer rate if Toms River
16 was excluded, had a 49 percent higher cancer
17 rate than the rest of the State and an 80 per-
18 cent higher leukemia rate than the rest of the
19 State; and

20 (3)(A) according to New Jersey State averages,
21 a population the size of Toms River should have 1.6
22 children under age 19 with cancer; and

23 (B) Toms River currently has 5 children under
24 the age of 19 with cancer.

1 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Agency
3 for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry shall conduct
4 dose-reconstruction modeling and an epidemiological study
5 of childhood cancer in Dover Township, New Jersey.

6 (b) GRANT TO NEW JERSEY.—The Administrator
7 may make 1 or more grants to the State of New Jersey
8 to carry out subsection (a).

9 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
11 this Act—

12 (1) \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and

13 (2) \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999
14 and 2000.

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