

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 484

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment
of a pediatric research initiative.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BOND) introduced the fol-
lowing bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor
and Human Resources

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for
the establishment of a pediatric research initiative.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) innovations in health care, deriving from
6 scientific investigation of the highest quality, offer
7 substantial benefits to the well-being of children and
8 savings in health care costs;

9 (2) findings in pediatric research not only pro-
10 mote and maintain health throughout a child's life-

1 span, but also contribute significantly to new in-
 2 sights and discoveries that will benefit the preven-
 3 tion and treatment of illnesses and conditions among
 4 adults;

5 (3) the knowledge base in biology and medicine
 6 is expanding beyond even recent predictions offering
 7 the opportunity for basic scientists and pediatricians
 8 trained in research to harness this knowledge to the
 9 benefit of children and society;

10 (4) children are our most valuable resource and
 11 yet research funding for this population is the most
 12 limited; and

13 (5) the search for prevention, cures, and better
 14 treatment of children’s illnesses calls for a new com-
 15 mitment to invest in children’s research today to
 16 make a real difference for children tomorrow.

17 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INI-**
 18 **TIATIVE.**

19 Part A of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
 20 (42 U.S.C. 281 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
 21 the following:

22 **“SEC. 404F. PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

23 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-
 24 lish within the Office of the Director of NIH a Pediatric
 25 Research Initiative (hereafter in this section referred to

1 as the ‘Initiative’). The Initiative shall be headed by the
2 Director of NIH.

3 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Initiative is to
4 provide funds to enable the Director of NIH to encour-
5 age—

6 “(1) increased support for pediatric biomedical
7 research within the National Institutes of Health to
8 ensure that the expanding opportunities for advance-
9 ment in scientific investigations and care for chil-
10 dren are realized;

11 “(2) enhanced collaborative efforts among the
12 Institutes to support multidisciplinary research in
13 the areas that the Director deems most promising;

14 “(3) increased support for pediatric outcomes
15 and medical effectiveness research to demonstrate
16 how to improve the quality of children’s health care
17 while reducing cost;

18 “(4) the development of adequate pediatric clin-
19 ical trials and pediatric use information to promote
20 the safer and more effective use of prescription
21 drugs in the pediatric population; and

22 “(5) recognition of the special attention pedi-
23 atric research deserves.

24 “(c) DUTIES.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Di-
25 rector of NIH shall—

1 “(1) consult with the Institutes and other advi-
 2 sors as the Director determines appropriate in the
 3 allocation of Initiative funds, including the Institute
 4 for Child Health and Human Development;

5 “(2) have broad discretion in the allocation of
 6 any Initiative assistance among the Institutes,
 7 among types of grants, and between basic and clinical
 8 research so long as the—

9 “(A) assistance is directly related to the ill-
 10 nesses and diseases of children; and

11 “(B) assistance is extramural in nature;
 12 and

13 “(3) be responsible for the oversight of any
 14 newly appropriated Initiative funds and be account-
 15 able with respect to such funds to Congress and to
 16 the public.

17 “(d) AUTHORIZATION.—To carry out this section,
 18 there is authorized to be appropriated in the aggregate,
 19 \$75,000,000 for fiscal years 1998 through 2000.

20 “(e) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The Director of NIH
 21 may transfer amounts appropriated under this section to
 22 any of the Institutes for a fiscal year to carry out the pur-
 23 poses of the Initiative under this section.”.

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