

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 631

To provide for expanded research concerning the environmental and genetic susceptibilities for breast cancer.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 23, 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 provide for expanded research concerning the environmental and genetic susceptibilities for breast cancer.

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 “New Jersey Women’s
5 Environmental Health Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The American Cancer Society estimates
9 6,400 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed

1 in New Jersey in 1997 with an estimated 1,800
2 deaths.

3 (2) In New Jersey, from 1989 to 1993, 8,378
4 women died from breast cancer. The average mortal-
5 ity rate per 100,000 was 31.1 for white women and
6 34.4 for African American women.

7 (3) New Jersey has the second highest breast
8 cancer mortality rate (31.1) of any State in the
9 United States. New Jersey also has more superfund
10 sites (107) than any other State.

11 (4) During the period from 1988 to 1992—

12 (A) New Jersey's incidence rate (110.8) of
13 breast cancer was 11 percent higher than the
14 national incidence rate (105.6);

15 (B) 19 of New Jersey's 21 counties had a
16 higher incidence rate of breast cancer than the
17 national average; and

18 (C) two-thirds of the counties described in
19 subparagraph (B) have a 10 percent or higher
20 incidence rate of breast cancer than the na-
21 tional average.

22 (5) The State's University of the Health
23 Sciences is one of only 7 joint centers in the United
24 States, and the only such center in New Jersey, that
25 house a National Cancer Institute designated re-

1 search center and a National Institute of Environ-
2 mental Health Sciences research center.

3 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH CONCERNING BREAST CANCER.**

4 (a) GRANT.—The Secretary of Defense is authorized
5 to award one or more grants to the University of the
6 Health Sciences of New Jersey (hereafter referred to in
7 this Act as the “University”) to enable the University and
8 affiliates of the University to conduct research, in collabo-
9 ration with the New Jersey Department of Health and
10 Senior Services, concerning environmental, lifestyle, and
11 genetic susceptibilities for breast cancer in the State of
12 New Jersey.

13 (b) STUDY AND REPORT.—

14 (1) STUDY.—The University shall use amounts
15 received under the grant under subsection (a) to
16 conduct a study to assess biological markers, expo-
17 sure to carcinogens, and other potential risk factors
18 contributing to the incidence of breast cancer in the
19 State of New Jersey.

20 (2) EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY.—The New Jer-
21 sey Department of Health and Senior Services shall
22 be the co-investigator with the University for any
23 population based epidemiologic studies under para-
24 graph (1) that attempt to explore associations be-

1 tween environmental and other risk factors and
2 breast cancer.

3 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 12 months after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, and annually
5 thereafter, the University (and the affiliates of the
6 University conducting the study under this sub-
7 section) shall prepare and submit to the appropriate
8 committees of Congress a report describing the find-
9 ings and progress made as a result of the studies
10 conducted under paragraphs (1) and (2).

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
12 authorized to be appropriated—

13 (1) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 1998; and

14 (2) \$2,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1999
15 through 2001.

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