

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2573

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Autoimmune Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 1999

Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Mrs. MORELLA, and Mr. BONIOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Autoimmune Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, 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 “NIH Office of Auto-  
5       immune Diseases Act of 1999”.

6       **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF AUTOIMMUNE DIS-**  
7                               **EASES AT NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.**

8       Title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
9       281 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 404D  
10      the following section:



1           “(C) The Director shall promote the suffi-  
2           cient allocation of the resources of the National  
3           Institutes of Health for conducting and sup-  
4           porting research on autoimmune diseases.

5           “(D) The Director shall biennially prepare  
6           a report that describes the research and edu-  
7           cation activities on autoimmune diseases being  
8           conducted or supported through the national re-  
9           search institutes, and that identifies particular  
10          projects or types of projects that should in the  
11          future be conducted or supported by the na-  
12          tional research institutes or other entities in the  
13          field of research on autoimmune diseases.

14          “(2) PRINCIPAL ADVISOR REGARDING AUTO-  
15          IMMUNE DISEASES.—With respect to autoimmune  
16          diseases, the Director of the Office shall serve as the  
17          principal advisor to the Secretary, the Assistant Sec-  
18          retary for Health, and the Director of NIH, and  
19          shall provide advice to the Director of the Centers  
20          for Disease Control and Prevention, the Commis-  
21          sioner of Food and Drugs, and other relevant agen-  
22          cies.

23          “(c) COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—The Director of  
24          NIH shall ensure that there is in operation a committee  
25          to assist the Director of the Office in carrying out sub-

1 section (b), that the committee is designated as the Auto-  
2 immune Diseases Coordinating Committee, and that, to  
3 the extent possible, such Coordinating Committee includes  
4 liaison members from other Federal health agencies, in-  
5 cluding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
6 and the Food and Drug Administration.

7 “(d) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
8 term ‘autoimmune diseases’ includes rheumatoid arthritis,  
9 systemic lupus erthematosus, multiple sclerosis, juvenile-  
10 onset diabetes, Sjögren’s syndrome, scleroderma, chronic  
11 fatigue syndrome, Crohn’s disease and colitis, and other  
12 diseases or disorders as determined by the Secretary.

13 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the  
14 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized  
15 to be appropriated \$950,000 for fiscal year 2000, and  
16 such sums as may be necessary for each subsequent fiscal  
17 year.”.

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