

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4008

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to addressing the special needs of children regarding organ transplantation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2000

Ms. DEGETTE (for herself and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to addressing the special needs of children regarding organ transplantation.

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 “Pediatric Organ
5 Transplantation Improvement Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION**
7 **NETWORK; AMENDMENTS REGARDING NEEDS**
8 **OF CHILDREN.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 372(b)(2) of the Public
10 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274(b)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (J), by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (2) in each of subparagraphs (K) and (L), by
4 striking the period and inserting a comma; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following subpara-
6 graphs:

7 “(M) recognize the differences in health
8 and in organ transplantation issues between
9 children and adults throughout the system and
10 adopt criteria, policies, and procedures that ad-
11 dress the unique health care needs of children,

12 “(N) carry out studies and demonstration
13 projects for the purpose of improving proce-
14 dures for organ donation procurement and allo-
15 cation, including but not limited to projects to
16 examine and attempt to increase transplan-
17 tation among populations with special needs, in-
18 cluding children and individuals who are mem-
19 bers of racial or ethnic minority groups, and
20 among populations with limited access to trans-
21 portation, and

22 “(O) provide that for purposes of this
23 paragraph, the term ‘children’ refers to individ-
24 uals who are under the age of 18.”.

1 (b) STUDY REGARDING IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE
2 DRUGS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services (referred to in this subsection as
5 the “Secretary”) shall provide for a study to deter-
6 mine the costs of immunosuppressive drugs that are
7 provided to children pursuant to organ transplants
8 and to determine the extent to which health plans
9 and health insurance cover such costs. The Sec-
10 retary may carry out the study directly or through
11 a grant to the Institute of Medicine (or other public
12 or nonprofit private entity).

13 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN
14 ISSUES.—The Secretary shall ensure that, in addi-
15 tion to making determinations under paragraph (1),
16 the study under such paragraph makes recommenda-
17 tions regarding the following issues:

18 (A) The costs of immunosuppressive drugs
19 that are provided to children pursuant to organ
20 transplants and to determine the extent to
21 which health plans, health insurance and gov-
22 ernment programs cover such costs.

23 (B) The extent of denial of organs to be
24 released for transplant by coroners and medical
25 examiners.

1 (C) The special growth and developmental
2 issues that children have pre- and post- organ
3 transplantation.

4 (D) Other issues that are particular to the
5 special health and transplantation needs of chil-
6 dren.

7 (3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall ensure that,
8 not later than December 31, 2000, the study under
9 paragraph (1) is completed and a report describing
10 the findings of the study is submitted to the Con-
11 gress.

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