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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research related to cerebral palsy, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. COHEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research related to cerebral palsy, 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 “Cerebral Palsy Re-  
5       search Program Authorization Act of 2023”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Cerebral palsy is the most common motor  
2           disability in children, affecting more than 1,000,000  
3           Americans, 1 in 345 children, and over 17,000,000  
4           people worldwide.

5           (2) In the United States, more than 10,000 ba-  
6           bies are diagnosed with cerebral palsy each year.

7           (3) Cerebral palsy is a broad group of disorders  
8           disrupting a person's ability to move, sit, stand,  
9           walk, talk, and use their hands.

10          (4) In more than 80 percent of cases, the cause  
11          of cerebral palsy is unknown.

12          (5) Seventy-five percent of individuals with cer-  
13          ebral palsy also have 1 or more additional develop-  
14          mental disabilities including epilepsy, intellectual dis-  
15          abilities, communication problems, learning and at-  
16          tention disorders, chronic pain, autism, hearing dis-  
17          orders, and visual impairments or blindness.

18          (6) Children with cerebral palsy are more likely  
19          to die from the flu and related viruses, including  
20          COVID-19, than children without neurologic dis-  
21          orders.

22          (7) There is no consensus of best practices for  
23          a person with cerebral palsy at the time of diagnosis  
24          or through the lifespan.

1           (8) It is estimated that the lifetime care and  
2           medical costs for all people with cerebral palsy who  
3           were born in 2000 alone will total more than  
4           \$13,500,000,000. The loss of productivity and lost  
5           wages of the individual with cerebral palsy and their  
6           family members is more than \$35,000,000,000.

7           (9) There is no known cure for cerebral palsy,  
8           and in most cases, it is not preventable.

9   **SEC. 3. CEREBRAL PALSY RESEARCH.**

10          Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended  
11          by inserting after section 317C of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
12          247b–4) the following new section:

13   **“SEC. 317C–1. CEREBRAL PALSY RESEARCH.**

14          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through  
15          the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-  
16          vention, and in consultation with other Federal agencies  
17          and partners, shall carry out (directly or through grants  
18          or contracts) a program of research related to cerebral  
19          palsy, including—

20                 “(1) research on—

21                         “(A) the most promising avenues of cere-  
22                         bral palsy diagnosis and treatment;

23                         “(B) factors that may mitigate the preva-  
24                         lence of cerebral palsy; and

1                   “(C) the health care and societal costs of  
2                   cerebral palsy;

3                   “(2) public health surveillance; and

4                   “(3) other research that the Director of the  
5                   Centers for Disease Control and Prevention deter-  
6                   mines to be appropriate to provide education and  
7                   training for health professionals and the general  
8                   public for purposes of diagnosing, treating, and ex-  
9                   plaining the causes, prevalence, and lifelong effects  
10                  of cerebral palsy.

11               “(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may  
12               (directly or through grants or contracts) provide technical  
13               assistance to public and nonprofit private entities in fur-  
14               therance of research under this section.

15               “(c) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall (directly or  
16               through grants or contracts) provide for the evaluation of  
17               activities under subsection (a) in order to determine the  
18               extent to which such activities have been effective, includ-  
19               ing evaluation of the effects of such activities on various  
20               demographic populations.

21               “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To  
22               carry out this section, there is authorized to be appro-  
23               priated \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through  
24               2029.”.