

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1688

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program of providing information and education to the public on the prevention and treatment of eating disorders.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 1995

Mrs. SCHROEDER (for herself, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. WILSON, Mr. SERRANO, and Mrs. LOWEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program of providing information and education to the public on the prevention and treatment of eating disorders.

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 “Eating Disorders In-
5 formation and Education Act of 1995”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Eating disorders include anorexia nervosa,
2 bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorder, as well
3 as eating disorders not otherwise defined.

4 (2) Anorexia nervosa and bulimia each can re-
5 sult in death, cardiac impairments, depression, sub-
6 stance abuse, osteoporosis, infertility, amenorrhea,
7 anemia, and other medical conditions.

8 (3) Medical authorities are uncertain to what
9 extent eating disorders are caused by physiological
10 factors, by psychosocial factors, or by both.

11 (4) Such disorders primarily affect women. As
12 many as 7 percent of women may be experiencing
13 eating disorders, and the rate of new cases is in-
14 creasing. As many as 80 percent of women may dur-
15 ing their lifetimes display symptoms of eating dis-
16 orders.

17 (5) There are effective treatments for some eat-
18 ing disorders.

19 **SEC. 3. PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION ON EATING**
20 **DISORDERS.**

21 Subpart 3 of part B of title V of the Public Health
22 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–31 et seq.), as added by
23 section 115 of Public Law 102–321 (106 Stat. 346), is
24 amended by adding at the end the following section:

1 “EATING DISORDERS

2 “SEC. 520C. (a) INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.—

3 The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Center
4 for Mental Health Services, shall carry out a program to
5 provide information and education to the public on the
6 prevention and treatment of eating disorders.

7 “(b) TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS.—

8 In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide
9 for the operation of toll-free telephone communications to
10 provide information to the public on eating disorders, in-
11 cluding referrals for services for the prevention and treat-
12 ment of such disorders. Such communications shall be
13 available on a 24-hour, 7-day basis.

14 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
15 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized
16 to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 1996, and
17 such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years
18 1997 and 1998.”.

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