

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1955

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Center for Pain Research, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 16, 1996

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. INOUE, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. SIMON, Mr. PRESSLER, and Mr. DEWINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Center for Pain Research, 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 “National Center for
5 Pain Research Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL CENTER FOR PAIN RESEARCH.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 401(b)(2) of the Pub-
8 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 281(b)(2)) is amended

1 by adding at the end thereof the following new subpara-
 2 graph:

3 “(F) The National Center for Pain Research.”.

4 (b) OPERATION.—Part E of title IV (42 U.S.C. 287
 5 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the fol-
 6 lowing new subpart:

7 “Subpart 5—National Center for Pain Research

8 **“SEC. 485E. ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE OF THE CEN-**
 9 **TER.**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-
 11 lish within the National Institutes of Health, a center to
 12 be known as the National Center for Pain Research (here-
 13 after referred to in this subpart as the ‘Center’). The Cen-
 14 ter shall be headed by a Director (hereafter referred to
 15 in this subpart as the ‘Director’) who shall be appointed
 16 by the Director of NIH, after consultation with experts
 17 in the fields of pain research and treatment representing
 18 the disciplines designated in subsection (b)(3), and have
 19 the powers described in section 405.

20 “(b) GENERAL PURPOSE.—The general purpose of
 21 the National Center for Pain Research is—

22 “(1) to improve the quality of life of individuals
 23 suffering from pain by fostering of clinical and basic
 24 science research into the causes of and effective
 25 treatments for pain;

1 “(2) to establish a national agenda for conduct-
2 ing and supporting pain research in the specific cat-
3 egories described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C),
4 and (D) of paragraph (3);

5 “(3) to identify, coordinate and support re-
6 search, training, health information dissemination
7 and related activities with respect to—

8 “(A) acute pain;

9 “(B) cancer and HIV-related pain;

10 “(C) back pain, headache pain, and facial
11 pain; and

12 “(D) other painful conditions;

13 including the biology of pain, the development of
14 new and the refinement of existing pain treatments,
15 the delivery of pain treatment through the health
16 care system and the coordination of interdisciplinary
17 pain management, that should be conducted or sup-
18 ported by the National Institutes of Health;

19 “(4) to conduct and support pain research,
20 training, education and related activities that have
21 been identified as requiring additional, special prior-
22 ity as determined appropriate by the Director of the
23 Center and the advisory council established under
24 subsection (c);

1 “(5) to coordinate all pain research, training,
2 and related activities being carried out among and
3 within the National Institutes of Health;

4 “(6) to initiate a comprehensive program of col-
5 laborative interdisciplinary research among schools,
6 colleges and universities, including colleges of medi-
7 cine and osteopathy, colleges of nursing, colleges of
8 chiropractic who are members of the Association of
9 Chiropractic Colleges, schools of dentistry, schools of
10 physical therapy, schools of occupational therapy,
11 and schools of clinical psychology, comprehensive
12 health care centers, and specialized centers of pain
13 research and treatment; and

14 “(7) to promote the sufficient allocation of the
15 resources of the National Institutes of Health for
16 conducting and supporting pain research in the spe-
17 cific categories described in subparagraphs (A), (B),
18 (C), and (D) of paragraph (3).

19 “(c) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The National Pain Re-
21 search Center Advisory Board shall be the advisory
22 council for the Center. Section 406 applies to the
23 advisory council established under this paragraph,
24 except that—

“(A) the members of the advisory council shall include representatives of the broad range of health and scientific disciplines involved in research and treatment related to those categories of pain described in subsection (b)(2), and shall include an equal number of representatives of physicians who practice pain management, clinical psychologists, individuals who provide physical medicine and rehabilitative services (including physical therapy and occupational therapy), nurses, dentists, and chiropractic health care professionals;

“(B) the nonvoting ex officio members shall include—

“(i) the Director of the National Cancer Institute;

“(ii) the Director of the National Institute of Dental Research;

“(iii) the Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development;

“(iv) the Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research;

“(v) the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases;

1 “(vi) the Director of the National In-
 2 stitute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal
 3 and Skin Diseases;

4 “(vii) the Director of the National In-
 5 stitute of Neurological Disorders and
 6 Stroke;

7 “(viii) the Director of the National In-
 8 stitute on Drug Abuse; and

9 “(ix) the Director of the National In-
 10 stitute on Disability and Rehabilitation Re-
 11 search of the Department of Education;
 12 and

13 “(3) the council shall meet at least two
 14 times each fiscal year.

15 “(2) DUTIES.—The advisory council shall ad-
 16 vise, assist, consult with and make recommendations
 17 to the Director of the Center concerning matters re-
 18 lating to the coordination, research, training, edu-
 19 cation, and related general purposes set forth in sub-
 20 section (b), including policy recommendations with
 21 regard to grants, contracts, and the operations of
 22 the Center.

23 “(d) ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL PAIN RE-
 24 SEARCH CENTERS.—

1 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—To facilitate and en-
 2 hance the research, training, education, and related
 3 activities to be carried out by the Center, the Direc-
 4 tor of the Center, in consultation with the advisory
 5 council established under subsection (c), shall estab-
 6 lish not less than six regional pain research centers.

7 “(2) FOCUS AND DISTRIBUTION.—

8 “(A) FOCUS.—The regional centers estab-
 9 lished under paragraph (1) shall have as their
 10 primary focus one of the categories of pain de-
 11 scribed in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D)
 12 of subsection (b)(3).

13 “(B) DISTRIBUTION.—One regional pain
 14 research center shall be established in each of
 15 the following six regions of the United States as
 16 defined by the Secretary:

17 “(A) The northeast region.

18 “(B) The southeast region.

19 “(C) The midwest region.

20 “(D) The southwest region.

21 “(E) The west region, including Hawaii.

22 “(F) The Pacific Northwest region, includ-
 23 ing Alaska.

24 “(2) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—The regional cen-
 25 ters established under paragraph (1) shall be a part

1 of the Center and shall be interconnected to the
2 Center headquarters through the utilization of dis-
3 tance learning technologies, satellites, fiber optic
4 links, or other telecommunications and computer
5 systems, to allow for the interactive exchange of in-
6 formation, research data, findings, training pro-
7 grams, educational programs, and other Center
8 research and related initiatives.

9 “(3) INITIAL REGIONAL CENTERS.—The initial
10 regional centers shall be selected through a competi-
11 tive process from among institutions and centers of
12 the type described in subsection (b)(6).

13 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of carry-
15 ing out this section, there are authorized to be ap-
16 propriated \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years
17 1997, 1998, and 1999, and such sums as may be
18 necessary for fiscal year 2000.

19 “(2) REGIONAL CENTERS.—Of the amount ap-
20 propriated under paragraph (1) for fiscal year 1998
21 and each subsequent fiscal year, not less than
22 \$1,000,000 shall be made available to each of the re-
23 gional centers established under subsection (d).

24 “(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
25 January 1, 1998, and each January 1, thereafter,

1 the Director of the Center shall prepare and submit
2 to the committees of Congress a report concerning
3 the total amount of funds expended to support for
4 pain-related research in for the year for which the
5 report was prepared.”.

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