

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 830

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 3, 2001

Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. KERRY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

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 “Breast Cancer and
5 Environmental Research Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) Breast cancer is the second leading cause of
4 cancer deaths among American women.

5 (2) More women in the United States are living
6 with breast cancer than any other cancer (excluding
7 skin cancer). Approximately 3,000,000 women in the
8 United States are living with breast cancer,
9 2,000,000 of which have been diagnosed and an esti-
10 mated 1,000,000 who do not yet know that they
11 have the disease.

12 (3) Breast cancer is the most commonly diag-
13 nosed cancer among women in the United States
14 and worldwide (excluding skin cancer). In 2001, it
15 is estimated that 233,000 new cases of breast cancer
16 will be diagnosed among women in the United
17 States, 192,000 cases of which will involve invasive
18 breast cancer and 40,800 cases of which will involve
19 ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS).

20 (4) Breast cancer is the second leading cause of
21 cancer death for women in the United States. Ap-
22 proximately 40,000 women in the United States die
23 from the disease each year. Breast cancer is the
24 leading cause of cancer death for women in the
25 United States between the ages of 20 and 59, and

1 the leading cause of cancer death for women world-
2 wide.

3 (5) A woman in the United States has a 1 in
4 8 chance of developing invasive breast cancer in her
5 lifetime. This risk was 1 in 11 in 1975. In 2001, a
6 new case of breast cancer will be diagnosed every 2
7 minutes and a woman will die from breast cancer
8 every 13 minutes.

9 (6) All women are at risk for breast cancer.
10 About 90 percent of women who develop breast can-
11 cer do not have a family history of the disease.

12 (7) The National Action Plan on Breast Can-
13 cer, a public private partnership, has recognized the
14 importance of expanding the scope and breadth of
15 biomedical, epidemiological, and behavioral research
16 activities related to the etiology of breast cancer and
17 the role of the environment.

18 (8) To date, there has been only a limited re-
19 search investment to expand the scope or coordinate
20 efforts across disciplines or work with the commu-
21 nity to study the role of the environment in the de-
22 velopment of breast cancer.

23 (9) In order to take full advantage of the tre-
24 mendous potential for avenues of prevention, the
25 Federal investment in the role of the environment

1 and the development of breast cancer should be ex-
2 panded.

3 (10) In order to understand the effect of chemi-
4 cals and radiation on the development of cancer,
5 multi-generational, prospective studies are probably
6 required.

7 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL**
8 **HEALTH SCIENCES; AWARDS FOR DEVELOP-**
9 **MENT AND OPERATION OF RESEARCH CEN-**
10 **TERS REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL FAC-**
11 **TORS RELATED TO BREAST CANCER.**

12 Subpart 12 of part C of title IV of the Public Health
13 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285L et seq.) is amended by adding
14 at the end the following section:

15 **“SEC. 463B. RESEARCH CENTERS REGARDING ENVIRON-**
16 **MENTAL FACTORS RELATED TO BREAST CAN-**
17 **CER.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute,
19 based on recommendations from the Breast Cancer and
20 Environmental Research Panel established under sub-
21 section (b) (referred to in this section as the ‘Panel’) shall
22 make grants, after a process of peer review and pro-
23 grammatic review, to public or nonprofit private entities
24 for the development and operation of not more than 8 cen-
25 ters for the purpose of conducting multidisciplinary and

1 multi-institutional research on environmental factors that
2 may be related to the etiology of breast cancer. Each such
3 center shall be known as a Breast Cancer and Environ-
4 mental Research Center of Excellence.

5 “(b) BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RE-
6 SEARCH PANEL.—

7 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
8 tablish in the Institute of Environmental Health
9 Sciences a Breast Cancer and Environmental Re-
10 search Panel.

11 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The Panel shall be com-
12 posed of—

13 “(A) 9 members to be appointed by the
14 Secretary, of which—

15 “(i) six members shall be appointed
16 from among physicians, and other health
17 professionals, who—

18 “(I) are not officers or employees
19 of the United States;

20 “(II) represent multiple dis-
21 ciplines, including clinical, basic, and
22 public health sciences;

23 “(III) represent different geo-
24 graphical regions of the United
25 States;

1 “(IV) are from practice settings
2 or academia or other research set-
3 tings; and

4 “(V) are experienced in bio-
5 medical review; and

6 “(ii) three members shall be appointed
7 from the general public who are represent-
8 atives of individuals who have had breast
9 cancer and who represent a constituency;
10 and

11 “(B) such nonvoting, ex officio members as
12 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

13 “(3) CHAIRPERSON.—The members of the
14 Panel appointed under paragraph (2)(A) shall select
15 a chairperson from among such members.

16 “(4) MEETINGS.—The Panel shall meet at the
17 call of the chairperson or upon the request of the
18 Director, but in no case less often than once each
19 year.

20 “(5) DUTIES.—The Panel shall—

21 “(A) oversee the peer review process for
22 the awarding of grants under subsection (a)
23 and conduct the programmatic review under
24 such subsection;

1 “(B) make recommendations with respect
2 to the funding criteria and mechanisms under
3 which amounts will be allocated under this sec-
4 tion; and

5 “(C) make final programmatic rec-
6 ommendations with respect to grants under this
7 section.

8 “(c) COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY.—Each
9 center under subsection (a) shall establish and maintain
10 ongoing collaborations with community organizations in
11 the geographic area served by the center, including those
12 that represent women with breast cancer.

13 “(d) COORDINATION OF CENTERS; REPORTS.—The
14 Director of the Institute shall, as appropriate, provide for
15 the coordination of information among centers under sub-
16 section (a) and ensure regular communication between
17 such centers, and may require the periodic preparation of
18 reports on the activities of the centers and the submission
19 of the reports to the Director.

20 “(e) REQUIRED CONSORTIUM.—Each center under
21 subsection (a) shall be formed from a consortium of co-
22 operating institutions, meeting such requirements as may
23 be prescribed by the Director of the Institute. Each center
24 shall require collaboration among highly accomplished sci-

1 entists, other health professionals and advocates of diverse
2 backgrounds from various areas of expertise.

3 “(f) DURATION OF SUPPORT.—Support of a center
4 under subsection (a) may be for a period not exceeding
5 5 years. Such period may be extended for one or more
6 additional periods not exceeding 5 years if the operations
7 of such center have been reviewed by an appropriate tech-
8 nical and scientific peer review group established by the
9 Director of the Institute and if such group has rec-
10 ommended to the Director that such period should be ex-
11 tended.

12 “(g) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF CENTERS.—
13 The Director of the Institute shall, to the extent prac-
14 ticable, provide for an equitable geographical distribution
15 of centers under this section.

16 “(h) INNOVATIVE APPROACHES.—Each center under
17 subsection (a) shall use innovative approaches to study un-
18 explored or under-explored areas of the environment and
19 breast cancer.

20 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
21 purpose of carrying out this section, there is authorized
22 to be appropriated \$30,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
23 2002 through 2007. Such authorization is in addition to

- 1 any other authorization of appropriations that is available
- 2 for such purpose.”.

