

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 1157

AN ACT

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 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXPANDING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON**
 7 **BREAST CANCER AND THE ENVIRONMENT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 1 of part C of title IV
 9 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285 et seq.)
 10 is amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 417F. INTERAGENCY BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRON-**
 12 **MENTAL RESEARCH COORDINATING COM-**
 13 **MITTEE.**

14 “(a) INTERAGENCY BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRON-
 15 MENTAL RESEARCH COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—

16 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 6
 17 months after the date of the enactment of this sec-
 18 tion, the Secretary shall establish a committee, to be
 19 known as the Interagency Breast Cancer and Envi-
 20 ronmental Research Coordinating Committee (in this
 21 section referred to as the ‘Committee’).

22 “(2) DUTIES.—The Committee shall—

23 “(A) share and coordinate information on
 24 existing research activities, and make rec-
 25 ommendations to the National Institutes of

1 Health and other Federal agencies regarding
2 how to improve existing research programs,
3 that are related to breast cancer research;

4 “(B) develop a comprehensive strategy and
5 advise the National Institutes of Health and
6 other Federal agencies in the solicitation of pro-
7 posals for collaborative, multidisciplinary re-
8 search, including proposals to evaluate environ-
9 mental and genomic factors that may be related
10 to the etiology of breast cancer that would—

11 “(i) result in innovative approaches to
12 study emerging scientific opportunities or
13 eliminate knowledge gaps in research to
14 improve the research portfolio;

15 “(ii) outline key research questions,
16 methodologies, and knowledge gaps;

17 “(iii) expand the number of research
18 proposals that involve collaboration be-
19 tween 2 or more national research insti-
20 tutes or national centers, including pro-
21 posals for Common Fund research de-
22 scribed in section 402(b)(7) to improve the
23 research portfolio; and

1 “(iv) expand the number of collabo-
2 rative, multidisciplinary, and multi-institu-
3 tional research grants;

4 “(C) develop a summary of advances in
5 breast cancer research supported or conducted
6 by Federal agencies relevant to the diagnosis,
7 prevention, and treatment of cancer and other
8 diseases and disorders; and

9 “(D) not later than 2 years after the date
10 of the establishment of the Committee, make
11 recommendations to the Secretary—

12 “(i) regarding any appropriate
13 changes to research activities, including
14 recommendations to improve the research
15 portfolio of the National Institutes of
16 Health to ensure that scientifically-based
17 strategic planning is implemented in sup-
18 port of research priorities that impact
19 breast cancer research activities;

20 “(ii) to ensure that the activities of
21 the National Institutes of Health and other
22 Federal agencies, including the Depart-
23 ment of Defense, are free of unnecessary
24 duplication of effort;

1 “(iii) regarding public participation in
2 decisions relating to breast cancer research
3 to increase the involvement of patient ad-
4 vocacy and community organizations rep-
5 resenting a broad geographical area;

6 “(iv) on how best to disseminate in-
7 formation on breast cancer research
8 progress; and

9 “(v) on how to expand partnerships
10 between public entities, including Federal
11 agencies, and private entities to expand
12 collaborative, cross-cutting research.

13 “(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For the pur-
14 poses of the Committee, when focusing on research
15 to evaluate environmental and genomic factors that
16 may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, noth-
17 ing in this section shall be construed to restrict the
18 Secretary from including other forms of cancer, as
19 appropriate, when doing so may advance research in
20 breast cancer or advance research in other forms of
21 cancer.

22 “(4) MEMBERSHIP.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall
24 be composed of the following voting members:

1 “(i) Not more than 7 voting Federal
2 representatives as follows:

3 “(I) The Director of the Centers
4 for Disease Control and Prevention.

5 “(II) The Director of the Na-
6 tional Institutes of Health and the di-
7 rectors of such national research insti-
8 tutes and national centers (which may
9 include the National Institute of Envi-
10 ronmental Health Sciences) as the
11 Secretary determines appropriate.

12 “(III) One representative from
13 the National Cancer Institute Board
14 of Scientific Advisors, appointed by
15 the Director of the National Cancer
16 Institute.

17 “(IV) The heads of such other
18 agencies of the Department of Health
19 and Human Services as the Secretary
20 determines appropriate.

21 “(V) Representatives of other
22 Federal agencies that conduct or sup-
23 port cancer research, including the
24 Department of Defense.

1 “(ii) 12 additional voting members ap-
2 pointed under subparagraph (B).

3 “(B) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Com-
4 mittee shall include additional voting members
5 appointed by the Secretary as follows:

6 “(i) 6 members shall be appointed
7 from among scientists, physicians, and
8 other health professionals, who—

9 “(I) are not officers or employees
10 of the United States;

11 “(II) represent multiple dis-
12 ciplines, including clinical, basic, and
13 public health sciences;

14 “(III) represent different geo-
15 graphical regions of the United
16 States;

17 “(IV) are from practice settings,
18 academia, or other research settings;
19 and

20 “(V) are experienced in scientific
21 peer review process.

22 “(ii) 6 members shall be appointed
23 from members of the general public, who
24 represent individuals with breast cancer.

1 “(C) NONVOTING MEMBERS.—The Com-
2 mittee shall include such nonvoting members as
3 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

4 “(5) CHAIRPERSON.—The voting members of
5 the Committee shall select a chairperson from
6 among such members. The selection of a chairperson
7 shall be subject to the approval of the Director of
8 NIH.

9 “(6) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet at
10 the call of the chairperson of the Committee or upon
11 the request of the Director of NIH, but in no case
12 less often than once each year.

13 “(b) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review the neces-
14 sity of the Committee in calendar year 2011 and, there-
15 after, at least once every 2 years.”.

16 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
17 purpose of carrying out research activities under title IV
18 of the Public Health Service Act, including section 417F
19 of such Act as added by subsection (a), there are author-
20 ized to be appropriated \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal
21 years 2009 through 2012. Amounts authorized to be ap-
22 propriated under the preceding sentence shall be in addi-
23 tion to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated

- 1 for such purpose under section 402A of the Public Health
- 2 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282a).

Passed the House of Representatives September 25,
2008.

Attest:

Clerk.

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