

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5889

AN ACT

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to disseminate information, resources, and if requested, technical assistance to early childhood care and education providers and professionals working with young children on ways to properly recognize and respond to children who may be impacted by trauma related to substance abuse.

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 “Recognizing Early
5 Childhood Trauma Related to Substance Abuse Act of
6 2018”.

7 **SEC. 2. RECOGNIZING EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA RE-**
8 **LATED TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE.**

9 (a) **DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.**—The Sec-
10 retary of Health and Human Services shall disseminate
11 information, resources, and, if requested, technical assist-
12 ance to early childhood care and education providers and
13 professionals working with young children on—

14 (1) ways to properly recognize children who
15 may be impacted by trauma related to substance
16 abuse by a family member or other adult; and

17 (2) how to respond appropriately in order to
18 provide for the safety and well-being of young chil-
19 dren and their families.

20 (b) **GOALS.**—The information, resources, and tech-
21 nical assistance provided under subsection (a) shall—

22 (1) educate early childhood care and education
23 providers and professionals working with young chil-
24 dren on understanding and identifying the early
25 signs and risk factors of children who might be im-

1 pacted by trauma due to exposure to substance
2 abuse;

3 (2) suggest age-appropriate communication
4 tools, procedures, and practices for trauma-informed
5 care, including ways to prevent or mitigate the ef-
6 fects of trauma;

7 (3) provide options for responding to children
8 impacted by trauma due to exposure to substance
9 abuse that consider the needs of the child and fam-
10 ily, including recommending resources and referrals
11 for evidence-based services to support such family;
12 and

13 (4) promote whole-family and multi-
14 generational approaches to prevent separation and
15 support re-unification of families whenever possible
16 and in the best interest of the child.

17 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Such information, re-
18 sources, and if applicable, technical assistance, shall not
19 be construed to amend the requirements under—

20 (1) the Child Care and Development Block
21 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.);

22 (2) the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et
23 seq.); or

Passed the House of Representatives June 13, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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