116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1367

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program on children and the media within the National Institutes of Health to study the health and developmental effects of technology on infants, children, and adolescents.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 26, 2019

Mr. Raskin (for himself and Mr. Budd) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program on children and the media within the National Institutes of Health to study the health and developmental effects of technology on infants, children, and adolescents.

- 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 "Children and Media
- 5 Research Advancement Act" or the "CAMRA Act".

1	SEC. 2. RESEARCH ON THE HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT
2	EFFECTS OF MEDIA ON INFANTS, CHILDREN,
3	AND ADOLESCENTS.
4	Subpart 7 of part C of title IV of the Public Health
5	Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285g et seq.) is amended by adding
6	at the end the following:
7	"SEC. 452H. RESEARCH ON THE HEALTH AND DEVELOP-
8	MENT EFFECTS OF MEDIA ON INFANTS, CHIL-
9	DREN, AND ADOLESCENTS.
10	"(a) In General.—The Director of the National In-
11	stitutes of Health, in coordination with or acting through
12	the Director of the Institute, shall conduct and support
13	research and related activities concerning the health and
14	developmental effects of media on infants, children, and
15	adolescents, which may include the positive and negative
16	effects of exposure to and use of media, such as social
17	media, applications, websites, television, motion pictures,
18	artificial intelligence, mobile devices, computers, video
19	games, virtual and augmented reality, and other media
20	formats as they become available. Such research shall at-
21	tempt to better understand the relationships between
22	media and technology use and individual differences and
23	characteristics of children and shall include longitudinally
24	designed studies to assess the impact of media on youth
25	over time. Such research shall include consideration of

- 1 core areas of child and adolescent health and development
- 2 including the following:

- "(1) Cognitive.—The role and impact of media use and exposure in the development of chil-dren and adolescents within such cognitive areas as language development, executive functioning, attention, creative problem solving skills, visual and spa-tial skills, literacy, critical thinking, and other learn-ing abilities, and the impact of early technology use on developmental trajectories.
 - "(2) Physical.—The role and impact of media use and exposure on children's and adolescent's physical development and health behaviors, including diet, exercise, sleeping and eating routines, and other areas of physical development.
 - "(3) Socio-emotional.—The role and impact of media use and exposure on children's and adolescents' social-emotional competencies, including self-awareness, self-regulation, social awareness, relationship skills, empathy, distress tolerance, perception of social cues, awareness of one's relationship with the media, and decision making, as well as outcomes such as privacy, violence, bullying, depression, anxiety, addiction, obsessive behavior, and suicidal ideation.

- 1 "(b) DEVELOPING RESEARCH AGENDA.—The Direc-
- 2 tor of the National Institutes of Health, in coordination
- 3 with the Director of the Institute, other appropriate na-
- 4 tional research institutes, academies, and centers, the
- 5 Trans-NIH Pediatric Research Consortium, and non-Fed-
- 6 eral experts as needed, shall develop a research agenda
- 7 on the health and developmental effects of media on in-
- 8 fants, children, and adolescents to inform research activi-
- 9 ties under subsection (a). In developing such research
- 10 agenda, the Director may use whatever means necessary
- 11 (such as scientific workshops and literature reviews) to as-
- 12 sess current knowledge and research gaps in this area.
- 13 "(c) Research Program.—In coordination with the
- 14 Institute and other national research institutes and cen-
- 15 ters, and utilizing the National Institutes of Health's proc-
- 16 ess of scientific peer review, the Director of the National
- 17 Institutes of Health shall fund an expanded research pro-
- 18 gram on the health and developmental effects of media
- 19 on infants, children, and adolescents.
- 20 "(d) Report to Congress.—Not later than 1 year
- 21 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of
- 22 the National Institutes of Health shall submit a report to
- 23 Congress on the progress made in gathering data and ex-
- 24 panding research on the health and developmental effects
- 25 of media on infants, children, and adolescents in accord-

- 1 ance with this section. Such report shall summarize the
- 2 grants and research funded, by year, under this section.
- 3 "(e) Authorization of Appropriations.—There
- 4 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-
- 5 tion—
- 6 "(1) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020
- 7 through 2022; and
- 8 "(2) \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023
- 9 and 2024.".

 \bigcirc