

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8537

To require a study on public health impacts as a consequence of the February 3, 2023, train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2024

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require a study on public health impacts as a consequence of the February 3, 2023, train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

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 “East Palestine Health
5 Impact Monitoring Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS AS A CON-**
7 **SEQUENCE OF THE TRAIN DERAILMENT IN**
8 **EAST PALESTINE, OHIO.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
10 Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Sec-

1 retary”) shall award a grant, contract, or cooperative
2 agreement to an eligible entity for purposes of conducting
3 a longitudinal study on any human health effects as a con-
4 sequence of the February 3, 2023, train derailment in
5 East Palestine, Ohio, and subsequent venting and burning
6 of chemicals.

7 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible for the award
8 under subsection (a), an entity shall be a consortium of
9 public or private institutions of higher education that dem-
10 onstrates requisite capacity and expertise to carry out the
11 study described in such subsection. The Secretary shall
12 give additional consideration to eligible entities that have
13 established relationships within the affected communities.

14 (c) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to the
15 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of
16 the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
17 of the House of Representatives—

18 (1) not later than 2 years after the date on
19 which an award is made pursuant to subsection (a),
20 a report summarizing the progress of such study, in-
21 cluding a description of any challenges related to
22 conducting such study and an anticipated timeline
23 for completion of such study and publication of re-
24 sults; and

1 (2) not later than 1 year after publication of
2 such results, a report describing such results and
3 any ongoing or planned activities of the Secretary to
4 support or conduct further research and, as appro-
5 pate, otherwise address such results.

6 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
7 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
8 essary for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until Sep-
9 tember 30, 2029, to carry out this Act.

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