Committee Print

(Showing the text of H.R. 5551 as favorably forwarded by the Subcommittee on Health on November 4, 2021)

117th CONGRESS 1st Session

H. R. 5551

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 12, 2021

Mr. Carter of Georgia (for himself, Mr. Cuellar, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Butterfield, and Mr. Hudson) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, and for other purposes.

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 “Improving the Health
5 of Children Act”.
SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL CENTER ON BIRTH DEFECTS AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

Section 317C of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–4) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a)(4) and inserting the following:

“(4) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Center, shall continue to carry out programs related to—

“(A) early identification of developmental delay and disability;

“(B) birth defects;

“(C) folic acid;

“(D) cerebral palsy;

“(E) intellectual disabilities;

“(F) child development;

“(G) newborn screening;

“(H) autism;

“(I) fragile X syndrome;

“(J) fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and other conditions related to prenatal substance use;

“(K) pediatric genetic disorders;

“(L) neuromuscular diseases;

“(M) congenital heart defects;
“(N) attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder;

“(O) stillbirth;

“(P) Tourette Syndrome; or

“(Q) any other relevant disease, disability, disorder, or condition, as determined the Secretary.”;

(2) in subsection (c), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than February 1” and all that follows through “2 fiscal years—” and inserting the following: “The Secretary shall submit biennially to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, a report that—”; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking “such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007” and inserting “$186,010,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTS OF FOLIC ACID IN PREVENTION OF BIRTH DEFECTS.

Section 317J of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–11) is amended by striking subsection (e) (relating to authorization of appropriations).