

## Union Calendar No. 149

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5561

**[Report No. 117–208]**

To reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2021

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

DECEMBER 8, 2021

Additional sponsor: Mr. KILMER

DECEMBER 8, 2021

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole  
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 12, 2021]

# **A BILL**

To reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, 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 “Early Hearing Detection*  
5 *and Intervention Act of 2021”.*

6 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM FOR EARLY DE-**  
7 **TECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT RE-**  
8 **GARDING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING**  
9 **NEWBORNS, INFANTS, AND YOUNG CHIL-**  
10 **DREN.**

11 *Section 399M(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42*  
12 *U.S.C. 280g–1(f)) is amended—*

13 *(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$17,818,000*  
14 *for fiscal year 2018, \$18,173,800 for fiscal year 2019,*  
15 *\$18,628,145 for fiscal year 2020, \$19,056,592 for fis-*  
16 *cal year 2021, and \$19,522,758 for fiscal year 2022”*  
17 *and inserting “\$17,818,000 for each of fiscal years*  
18 *2022 through 2026”;*

19 *(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$10,800,000*  
20 *for fiscal year 2018, \$11,026,800 for fiscal year 2019,*  
21 *\$11,302,470 for fiscal year 2020, \$11,562,427 for fis-*  
22 *cal year 2021, and \$11,851,488 for fiscal year 2022”*  
23 *and inserting “\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal years*  
24 *2022 through 2026”; and*

1           (3) in paragraph (3), by striking “fiscal years  
2           2011 through 2015” and inserting “fiscal years 2022  
3           through 2026”.

4 **SEC. 3. GAO STUDY ON STATE EARLY HEARING DETECTION**  
5 **AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS.**

6           (a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Comptroller General of the  
7 United States shall conduct a study reviewing State early  
8 hearing detection and intervention (in this section referred  
9 to as “EHDI”) programs. Such study shall—

10           (1) analyze how information collected through  
11 such programs informs what is known about EHDI  
12 activities to ensure that newborns, infants, and young  
13 children have access to timely hearing screenings and  
14 early interventions, including information on any  
15 disparities in such access;

16           (2) analyze what is known about how parents  
17 use State EHDI websites to seek health and pro-  
18 grammatic guidance related to their child’s hearing  
19 loss diagnosis; and

20           (3) identify efforts and any promising practices  
21 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the  
22 Health Resources and Services Administration, the  
23 National Institute on Deafness and Other Commu-  
24 nication Disorders, and State EHDI programs—

1                   (A) to address disparities in outreach for,  
2                   or access to, timely hearing screenings and early  
3                   interventions; and

4                   (B) to ensure that EHDI follow-up services  
5                   are communicated and made available to medi-  
6                   cally underserved populations, including racial  
7                   and ethnic minorities.

8           (b) *REPORT.*—Not later than two years after the date  
9           of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
10          shall—

11                   (1) complete the study under subsection (a) and  
12                   submit a report on the results of the study to—

13                           (A) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
14                           merce of the House of Representatives; and

15                           (B) the Committee on Health, Education,  
16                           Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

17                   (2) make such report publicly available.

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