

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1132

To establish programs to provide services to individuals with autism and the families of such individuals and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2011

Mr. MENENDEZ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish programs to provide services to individuals with autism and the families of such individuals 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 “Autism Spectrum Dis-
5 orders Services Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY AUTISM COORDINATING COM-**
7 **MITTEE.**

8 Section 399CC of the Public Health Service Act (42
9 U.S.C. 280i–2) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “within the
2 Department of Health and Human Services” and in-
3 serting “of Federal agencies”;

4 (2) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and
6 the families of such individuals” before the
7 semicolon at the end;

8 (B) in paragraph (2)—

9 (i) by inserting “, evaluate, and as-
10 sess” after “monitor”; and

11 (ii) by inserting “and facilitate col-
12 laboration among Federal agencies” before
13 the semicolon at the end;

14 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and
15 other appropriate Federal Government depart-
16 ment and agency heads” after “Secretary”;

17 (D) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and
18 other appropriate Federal Government depart-
19 ment and agency heads” after “Secretary”;

20 (E) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and
21 services and supports for individuals with au-
22 tism spectrum disorder and the families of such
23 individuals” after “research”; and

24 (F) in paragraph (6), by striking “submit
25 to the Congress” and inserting “submit to the

1 President, who shall review and transmit to
2 Congress,”;

3 (3) in subsection (c)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1)(D), by inserting “,
5 the Department of Defense, the National Coun-
6 cil on Disability, and other relevant Federal
7 agencies, including the Department of Housing
8 and Urban Development, the Department of
9 Justice, and the Department of Labor” before
10 the semicolon at the end; and

11 (B) in paragraph (2)—

12 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
13 graph (A), by striking “fewer than 6 mem-
14 bers of the Committee, or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total
15 membership of the Committee, whichever
16 is greater,” and inserting “less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of
17 the total membership of the Committee”;

18 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
19 “one such member shall be an individual”
20 and inserting “2 such members shall be in-
21 dividuals”;

22 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

23 (I) by striking “one such member
24 shall be a parent or legal guardian”

1 and inserting “2 such members shall
2 be a parent or a legal guardian”; and

3 (II) by striking “and” at the end;
4 (iv) in subparagraph (C)—

5 (I) by striking “one such member
6 shall be a representative” and insert-
7 ing “2 such members shall be rep-
8 resentatives”; and

9 (II) by striking the period at the
10 end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (v) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(D) at least 2 such members shall be cli-
13 nicians or service-providers who work with indi-
14 viduals with autism spectrum disorder.”;

15 (4) in subsection (d), by inserting after para-
16 graph (4) the following:

17 “(5) The Committee shall be chaired by an in-
18 dividual designated by the Secretary.

19 “(6) If the Secretary determines that the at-
20 tendance at meetings of a Member of the Committee
21 has not been adequate, the Secretary may rescind
22 the appointment of such member before the expira-
23 tion of the term of such member and appoint an-
24 other individual to fill the vacancy.”;

1 (5) by rewriting subsection (e) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(e) SUBCOMMITTEES; ESTABLISHMENT AND MEM-
4 BERSHIP.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out its func-
6 tions, the Committee may convene workshop and
7 conferences. The Committee shall establish a sub-
8 committee on research on autism spectrum dis-
9 orders, a subcommittee on services and supports for
10 individuals with autism spectrum disorders and the
11 families of such individuals, and such other sub-
12 committees as the Committee determines appro-
13 priate. Such subcommittees shall vote separately on
14 matters within their respective jurisdictions. Such
15 subcommittees shall be composed of Committee
16 members and may hold such meetings as are nec-
17 essary to enable the subcommittees to carry out
18 their duties.

19 “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Committee shall
20 submit an annual report to Congress describing the
21 recommendations of the subcommittees described in
22 paragraph (1) with respect to services and supports
23 for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and
24 the families of such individuals.”;

1 **“SEC. 399EE. PLANNING AND DEMONSTRATION GRANT FOR**
2 **SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, TRANSITIONING**
3 **YOUTH, AND ADULTS.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To assist selected eligible enti-
5 ties in providing appropriate services to children, youth
6 with autism spectrum disorders who are transitioning
7 from secondary education to careers or post-secondary
8 education (referred to in this section as ‘transitioning
9 youth’), adults with autism spectrum disorders, and indi-
10 viduals of any age with autism spectrum disorders who
11 may be at risk due to behavioral and preventable environ-
12 mental factors, such as wandering (referred to in this sec-
13 tion as ‘individuals at risk’), the Secretary shall estab-
14 lish—

15 “(1) a one-time, single-year planning grant pro-
16 gram for eligible entities; and

17 “(2) a multi-year service provision demonstra-
18 tion grant program for selected eligible entities.

19 “(b) PURPOSE OF GRANTS.—Grants shall be award-
20 ed to eligible entities to provide all or part of the funding
21 needed to—

22 “(1) carry out programs that focus critical as-
23 pects of life for children, transitioning youth, and
24 adults with autism spectrum disorders (including
25 adults not eligible for developmental disability serv-
26 ices provided by a State), such as—

1 “(A) postsecondary education, peer sup-
2 port, vocational training, self-advocacy skills,
3 and employment;

4 “(B) community-based behavioral supports
5 and interventions;

6 “(C) residential services, housing, and
7 transportation;

8 “(D) nutrition, health and wellness, rec-
9 reational and social activities; and

10 “(E) personal safety for individuals at risk
11 and the needs of individuals with autism spec-
12 trum disorders who become involved with the
13 criminal justice system; and

14 “(2) develop and implement autism navigator
15 initiatives that create a more efficient, effective, co-
16 ordinated use of the health, housing, education and
17 social service systems for individuals with an autism
18 spectrum disorder.

19 “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity desiring
20 to receive a grant under this section shall be a State or
21 other public or private nonprofit organization, including
22 a State Council on Developmental Disabilities, as defined
23 in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assist-
24 ance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002).

25 “(d) PLANNING GRANTS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
2 one-time grants to eligible entities to support the
3 planning and development of initiatives that will ex-
4 pand and enhance service delivery systems for chil-
5 dren, individuals at risk, transitioning youth, and
6 adults with autism spectrum disorders.

7 “(2) APPLICATION.—In order to receive such a
8 grant, an eligible entity shall—

9 “(A) submit an application at such time
10 and containing such information as the Sec-
11 retary may require; and

12 “(B) demonstrate the ability to carry out
13 such planning grant in coordination with the
14 applicable State Council on Developmental Dis-
15 abilities and organizations representing or serv-
16 ing individuals with autism spectrum disorders
17 and the families of such individuals.

18 “(e) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
20 grants to eligible entities that have received a plan-
21 ning grant under subsection (d) to enable such enti-
22 ties to provide appropriate services to children, indi-
23 viduals at risk, transitioning youth, and adults with
24 autism spectrum disorders.

1 “(2) APPLICATION.—In order to receive a grant
2 under paragraph (1), the eligible entity shall submit
3 an application at such time and containing such in-
4 formation as the Secretary may require, including—

5 “(A) the services that the eligible entity
6 proposes to provide and the expected outcomes
7 for the individuals who receive such services;

8 “(B) the number of individuals who will be
9 served by such grant, including an estimate of
10 the individuals in underserved areas who will be
11 served by such grant;

12 “(C) the ways in which services will be co-
13 ordinated among both public and nonprofit pro-
14 viders of services for children, transitioning
15 youth, and adults with disabilities, including
16 community-based services;

17 “(D) where applicable, the process through
18 which the eligible entity will distribute funds to
19 a range of community-based or nonprofit pro-
20 viders of services, including local governments,
21 and the capacity of such entity to provide such
22 services;

23 “(E) the process through which the eligible
24 entity will monitor and evaluate the outcome of
25 activities funded through the grant, including

1 the effect of the activities upon individuals who
2 receive such services;

3 “(F) where applicable, the plans of the eli-
4 gible entity to coordinate and streamline transi-
5 tions from youth to adult services;

6 “(G) the process by which the eligible enti-
7 ty will ensure compliance with the integration
8 requirement under section 302 of the Ameri-
9 cans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
10 12182); and

11 “(H) a description of how such services
12 may be sustained following the grant period.

13 “(f) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall contract
14 with a third-party organization with expertise in evalua-
15 tion to evaluate such demonstration grant program and,
16 not later than 180 days after the conclusion of the grant
17 program under subsection (e), submit a report to the Sec-
18 retary. The evaluation and report may include an analysis
19 of whether and to what extent the services provided
20 through the grant program described in this section re-
21 sulted in improved safety, health, education, employment,
22 and community integration outcomes or other measures,
23 as the Secretary determines appropriate.

24 “(g) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amounts
25 appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall

1 set aside not more than 7 percent for administrative ex-
 2 penses, including the expenses related to carrying out the
 3 evaluation described in subsection (f).

4 “(h) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Demonstra-
 5 tion grant funds provided under this section shall supple-
 6 ment, not supplant, existing treatments, interventions,
 7 and services for individuals with autism spectrum dis-
 8 orders.”.

9 **“SEC. 399EE-1. NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER**
 10 **FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTERVENTIONS,**
 11 **AND SERVICES.**

12 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL AS-
 13 SISTANCE CENTER FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTER-
 14 VENTIONS, AND SERVICES.—The Secretary shall award a
 15 grant to a national nonprofit organization for the estab-
 16 lishment and maintenance of a national technical assist-
 17 ance center.

18 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—An organization shall be eligible
 19 to receive a grant under subsection (a) if the organiza-
 20 tion—

21 “(1) has demonstrated knowledge and expertise
 22 in serving children with autism and adults with au-
 23 tism and the families of such individuals;

24 “(2) has demonstrated knowledge of how to
 25 translate research to practice, and present informa-

1 tion in a way that is easily accessible and under-
2 standable to the family members of individuals with
3 autism;

4 “(3) has demonstrated capacity of training edu-
5 cators, health care providers, family members, and
6 others to support the needs of individuals with au-
7 tism;

8 “(4) has demonstrated capacity of dissemi-
9 nating information throughout the United States;
10 and

11 “(5) has demonstrated capacity to establish and
12 maintain an Internet Web site through which to dis-
13 seminate information in an easily accessible manner.

14 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—The national technical assist-
15 ance center established under this section shall—

16 “(1) gather and disseminate information on evi-
17 dence-based treatments, interventions, and services
18 for children with autism and adults with autism, in-
19 cluding best practices in delivering such treatments,
20 interventions, and services, and make such informa-
21 tion available to State agencies with responsibilities
22 under section 399BB(c)(2), local communities, and
23 individuals;

1 “(2) gather and disseminate information on ac-
2 tivities of the Interagency Autism Coordinating
3 Committee established under section 399CC;

4 “(3) provide analysis of activities funded under
5 the Autism Spectrum Disorders Services Act of
6 2011, including—

7 “(A) the effectiveness of State and commu-
8 nity-based models for delivering comprehensive
9 services to individuals with autism;

10 “(B) identification and dissemination of
11 best practices emerging from States, commu-
12 nity-based organizations, nonprofit providers,
13 and local governments receiving demonstration
14 grants under this subpart;

15 “(C) the State-by-State availability of, and
16 gaps in, services for individuals with autism
17 spectrum disorders, including information on
18 services or service gaps in rural areas; and

19 “(D) levels of funding and funding sources
20 of services for individuals with autism spectrum
21 disorders in States;

22 “(4) provide technical assistance to States and
23 organizations funded under this part;

24 “(5) gather and disseminate information about
25 autism spectrum disorders;

1 “(6) establish and maintain an Internet Web
2 site through which to disseminate the information
3 gathered under this section in an easily accessible
4 manner;

5 “(7) establish partnerships with advocacy orga-
6 nizations to disseminate accurate information on
7 education, service-provision, and support options and
8 provide assistance in navigating service-provision
9 systems; and

10 “(8) gather and disseminate other information
11 as determined appropriate by the Secretary.”.

12 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 Section 399FF of the Public Health Service Act, as
14 so redesignated by section 3, is amended by adding at the
15 end the following:

16 “(d) PLANNING AND DEMONSTRATION GRANT FOR
17 SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, TRANSITIONING YOUTH AND
18 ADULTS.—To carry out section 399EE, there are author-
19 ized to be appropriated the following:

20 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$80,000,000.

21 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$90,000,000.

22 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$100,000,000.

23 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$110,000,000.

24 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$120,000,000.

1 “(e) NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER
2 FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTERVENTIONS, AND SERV-
3 ICES.—To carry out section 399EE–1, there are author-
4 ized to be appropriated the following:

5 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$2,000,000.

6 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$2,100,000.

7 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$2,200,000.

8 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$2,300,000.

9 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$2,400,000.”.

10 **SEC. 5. GAO STUDY ON SERVICE PROVISION AND FINANC-**
11 **ING.**

12 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
13 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
14 shall release a report that examines the following issues:

15 (1) The ways in which autism services and
16 treatments are currently financed in the United
17 States.

18 (2) Current policies for public and private
19 health insurance coverage of autism treatments,
20 interventions, and services.

21 (3) Geographic and regional disparities in provi-
22 sion of services across the lifespan of individuals
23 with autism, levels of community-based versus insti-
24 tutional services, and coverage for such services.

1 (4) Ways in which to improve financing of au-
2 tism treatments, interventions, and services, so as to
3 ensure a minimum level of coverage across the
4 United States.

5 (5) Gaps in financing and availability of serv-
6 ices for adults on the autism spectrum, focusing par-
7 ticularly on the needs of adults not eligible for devel-
8 opmental disability services provided by the State.

9 (6) Areas of need to improve the quality of
10 services available to individuals on the autism spec-
11 trum in cross-disability contexts, such as vocational
12 rehabilitation and centers for independent living.

13 (7) Findings from replicable studies that indi-
14 cate an increased risk of mortality for individuals
15 with autism due to preventable circumstances such
16 as wandering, exposure, drowning, and untreated
17 seizure disorders.

18 (8) Gaps in financing and availability of serv-
19 ices for individuals with severe behavioral challenges
20 and the families of such individuals.

21 (9) State-administered waiting lists for services,
22 including residential services, for individuals already
23 deemed eligible for such services by a State, and
24 specific policies to expedite the availability of serv-
25 ices for individuals on the waiting list.

1 **SEC. 6. EMERGING NEEDS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY**
 2 **PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM**
 3 **SPECTRUM DISORDERS.**

4 (a) INITIATIVES ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DIS-
 5 ORDERS.—Title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assist-
 6 ance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15001
 7 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

8 **“Subtitle F—Initiatives on Autism**
 9 **Spectrum Disorders**

10 **“SEC. 171. EMERGING NEEDS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY**
 11 **PROGRAM.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants
 13 to protection and advocacy systems for the purpose of ena-
 14 bling such systems to address the needs of individuals with
 15 autism spectrum disorders.

16 “(b) SERVICES PROVIDED.—Services provided under
 17 this section may include the provision of—

18 “(1) information, referrals, and advice;

19 “(2) individual and family advocacy;

20 “(3) legal representation;

21 “(4) specific assistance in self-advocacy and as-
 22 sistance in capacity building for organizations that
 23 advocate on behalf of individuals with autism spec-
 24 trum disorder; or

25 “(5) training to individuals with autism spec-
 26 trum disorders, the families of such individuals, or

1 advocates for individuals with autism spectrum dis-
2 orders.

3 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
4 under this section, a protection and advocacy system
5 shall—

6 “(1) have the right and authority to investigate
7 incidents of abuse and neglect of youth and adults
8 with autism spectrum disorders if the incidents are
9 reported to the protection and advocacy system or if
10 there is probable cause to believe that the incidents
11 occurred;

12 “(2) have the right and authority to pursue ad-
13 ministrative, legal, and other appropriate remedies
14 and approaches to ensure the protection of youth
15 and adults with autism spectrum disorders; and

16 “(3) have the rights and authorities, including
17 access authority, described in section 143 of this Act
18 and section 105 of the Protection and Advocacy for
19 Individuals with Mental Illness Act (42 U.S.C.
20 10804).

21 “(d) GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall make
22 grants under this section during each fiscal year beginning
23 on October 1 to protection and advocacy systems as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(1) APPROPRIATIONS LESS THAN \$6,700,000.—

2 With respect to any fiscal year for which the amount
3 appropriated under subsection (i) is less than
4 \$6,700,000, the Secretary shall make grants from
5 such amount to protection and advocacy systems
6 that apply for a grant under this section in the
7 amounts described in paragraph (3).

8 “(2) APPROPRIATIONS OF \$6,700,000 OR
9 MORE.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any
11 fiscal year for which the amount appropriated
12 under subsection (i) is \$6,700,000 or more, the
13 Secretary shall make grants from such amount
14 to protection and advocacy systems under this
15 section in accordance with subparagraph (B).

16 “(B) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—Subject to
17 paragraph (3), the amount of a grant to a pro-
18 tection and advocacy system under subpara-
19 graph (A) shall be equal to an amount bearing
20 the same ratio to the total amount appropriated
21 for the fiscal year involved as the population of
22 the State, Territory, or Consortium in which
23 the grantee is located bears to the cumulative
24 population of all States, Territories, and the
25 Consortium that receive such grant.

1 “(3) MINIMUM AMOUNTS.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a
3 grant under this section shall not be less
4 than—

5 “(i) in the case of a protection and
6 advocacy system located in a State,
7 \$120,000; and

8 “(ii) in the case of a protection and
9 advocacy system located in a Territory or
10 Consortium, \$60,000.

11 “(B) ADJUSTMENTS TO MINIMUM
12 AMOUNTS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a
14 fiscal year (referred to in this subpara-
15 graph as the ‘current fiscal year’) in which
16 the total amount appropriated under sub-
17 section (i) is \$10,000,000 or more, and
18 such amount appropriated exceeds the
19 total amount appropriated under such sub-
20 section for the preceding fiscal year, the
21 Secretary shall increase the minimum
22 grant amounts under subparagraph (A) by
23 a percentage equal to the percentage by
24 which the total amount appropriated for

1 the current fiscal year exceeds the amount
2 appropriated for the previous fiscal year.

3 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall
4 not apply in the case that the total amount
5 appropriated for the current fiscal year is
6 less than the amount appropriated for any
7 fiscal year in the period between the date
8 of enactment of the Autism Spectrum Dis-
9 orders Services Act of 2011 and such cur-
10 rent fiscal year.

11 “(C) APPLICABILITY OF ADJUSTMENTS.—
12 An increase in the minimum grant amounts
13 under subparagraph (B) shall be effective for
14 each subsequent fiscal year.

15 “(4) LOWER APPROPRIATION YEARS.—In the
16 case of a fiscal year for which the amount appro-
17 priated under subsection (i) is insufficient to satisfy
18 the requirements of paragraph (3) for each protec-
19 tion and advocacy system that applies for a grant
20 under this section, the Secretary shall award grants
21 in the amounts described in paragraph (3) to as
22 many protection and advocacy systems as the
23 amount appropriated allows.

24 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
25 section and subsection (e):

1 “(A) CONSORTIUM.—The term ‘Consortium’ means an American Indian Consortium,
2 as defined in section 102(1).
3

4 “(B) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means
5 each of the 50 States of the United States, the
6 District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of
7 Puerto Rico.

8 “(C) TERRITORY.—The term ‘Territory’
9 means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of
10 the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the
11 United States Virgin Islands.

12 “(e) CARRYOVER.—Any amount paid to a protection
13 and advocacy system that serves a Consortium, State, or
14 Territory for a fiscal year under this section that remains
15 unobligated at the end of such fiscal year shall remain
16 available to such system for obligation during the next fis-
17 cal year for the purposes for which such amount was origi-
18 nally provided.

19 “(f) DIRECT PAYMENT.—Notwithstanding any other
20 provision of law, the Secretary shall pay directly to any
21 protection and advocacy system that complies with the
22 provisions of this section, the total amount of the grant
23 for such system, unless the system provides otherwise for
24 such payment.

1 “(g) ADMINISTRATIVE, REPORTING, AND OVERSIGHT
2 REQUIREMENTS.—To the extent practicable, reporting,
3 monitoring, program financing, and other administrative
4 and oversight requirements established by the Secretary
5 under this section shall be consistent with the other ad-
6 ministrative, reporting, and oversight requirements for a
7 protection and advocacy system.

8 “(h) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each protection and advo-
9 cacy system that receives a payment under this section
10 shall submit an annual report to the Secretary concerning
11 the services provided to individuals with autism spectrum
12 disorders by such system.

13 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
14 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
15 priated the following:

16 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$8,000,000.

17 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$9,000,000.

18 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$10,000,000.

19 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$11,000,000.

20 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$12,000,000.

21 “(j) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘protec-
22 tion and advocacy system’ means a protection and advo-
23 cacy system established under section 143.

24 “(k) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

1 “(1) APPROPRIATIONS OF LESS THAN
2 \$6,750,000.—For a fiscal year for which the amount
3 appropriated to carry out this section is less than
4 \$6,750,000, the Secretary shall set aside the greater
5 of—

6 “(A) 1 percent of the funds appropriated;

7 or

8 “(B) \$25,000,

9 to make a grant to a national organization with ex-
10 perience in providing training and technical assist-
11 ance to protection and advocacy systems to provide
12 such training and technical assistance.

13 “(2) APPROPRIATIONS OF NOT LESS THAN
14 \$6,750,000.—For a fiscal year for which the amount
15 appropriated to carry out this section is not less
16 than \$6,750,000, the Secretary shall set aside 2 per-
17 cent of the funds appropriated to make a grant to
18 a national organization with experience in providing
19 training and technical assistance to protection and
20 advocacy systems to provide such training and tech-
21 nical assistance.

22 **“SEC. 172. NATIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE.**

23 “(a) GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

24 “(1) GRANTS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in con-
2 sultation with the Interagency Autism Coordi-
3 nating Committee established under section
4 399CC of the Public Health Service Act, shall
5 award multi-year grants to eligible entities to
6 provide individuals with interdisciplinary train-
7 ing, continuing education, technical assistance,
8 and information for the purpose of improving
9 services rendered to individuals with autism
10 spectrum disorders and the families of such in-
11 dividuals, to address unmet needs related to au-
12 tism spectrum disorders.

13 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to
14 receive a grant under this subsection, an entity
15 shall be—

16 “(i) a University Center for Excel-
17 lence in Developmental Disabilities Edu-
18 cation, Research, and Service; or

19 “(ii) a comparable interdisciplinary
20 education, research, and service entity.

21 “(C) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An
22 entity that desires to receive a grant for a pro-
23 gram under this subsection shall submit to the
24 Secretary an application—

1 “(i) demonstrating that the entity has
2 capacity to—

3 “(I) provide training and tech-
4 nical assistance in evidence-based
5 practices to evaluate, and provide ef-
6 fective interventions, services, treat-
7 ments, and supports to individuals
8 with autism spectrum disorders and
9 the families of such individuals; and

10 “(II) establish a consumer advi-
11 sory committee that includes individ-
12 uals with autism spectrum disorder
13 and family members of individuals
14 with autism spectrum disorder;

15 “(ii) providing assurances that the en-
16 tity will—

17 “(I) provide trainees under this
18 subsection with an appropriate bal-
19 ance of interdisciplinary academic and
20 community-based experiences; and

21 “(II) provide to the Secretary, in
22 the manner prescribed by the Sec-
23 retary, data regarding the number of
24 individuals who have benefitted from,
25 and outcomes of, the provision of

1 training and technical assistance
2 under this subsection;

3 “(iii) providing assurances that train-
4 ing, technical assistance, dissemination of
5 information, and services under this sub-
6 section will be—

7 “(I) consistent with the goals of
8 this Act, the Americans with Disabil-
9 ities Act of 1990, the Individuals with
10 Disabilities Education Act, and the
11 Elementary and Secondary Education
12 Act of 1965; and

13 “(II) conducted in coordination
14 with relevant State agencies, institu-
15 tions of higher education, and service
16 providers; and

17 “(iv) containing such other informa-
18 tion and assurances as the Secretary may
19 require.

20 “(D) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant received
21 under this subsection shall be used to provide
22 individuals (including parents and health, allied
23 health, vocational, and educational profes-
24 sionals) with interdisciplinary training, con-
25 tinuing education, technical assistance, and in-

1 formation for the purpose of improving services
2 rendered to individuals with autism spectrum
3 disorders and the families of such individuals,
4 to address unmet needs related to autism spec-
5 trum disorders. Such training, education, as-
6 sistance, and information shall include each of
7 the following:

8 “(i) Training health, allied health, vo-
9 cational, and educational professionals to
10 identify, evaluate the needs of, and develop
11 interventions, services, treatments, and
12 supports (including housing, personal safe-
13 ty, and employment related supports) for
14 individuals with autism spectrum dis-
15 orders.

16 “(ii) Developing, demonstrating, and
17 disseminating a standard curriculum for
18 the training of first responders, including
19 police, firefighters, emergency medical
20 technicians, and other law enforcement and
21 public safety officers.

22 “(iii) Training direct service profes-
23 sionals to provide housing and employment
24 related supports.

1 “(iv) Developing model services and
2 supports that demonstrate evidence-based
3 practices.

4 “(v) Developing systems and products
5 that allow for the interventions, services,
6 treatments, and supports to be evaluated
7 for fidelity of implementation.

8 “(vi) Working to expand the avail-
9 ability of evidence-based, lifelong interven-
10 tions; educational, employment, and transi-
11 tion services; and community supports.

12 “(vii) Providing statewide technical
13 assistance in collaboration with relevant
14 State agencies, institutions of higher edu-
15 cation, advocacy organizations, family
16 groups, and community-based service pro-
17 viders.

18 “(viii) Working to develop comprehen-
19 sive systems of supports and services for
20 individuals with autism spectrum disorders
21 and the families of such individuals, in-
22 cluding seamless transitions between edu-
23 cation and health systems across the life-
24 span.

1 “(ix) Promoting training, technical as-
2 sistance, dissemination of information,
3 supports, and services.

4 “(x) Developing mechanisms to pro-
5 vide training and technical assistance, in-
6 cluding for-credit courses, intensive sum-
7 mer institutes, continuing education pro-
8 grams, distance-based programs, and
9 Internet Web site-based information dis-
10 semination strategies.

11 “(xi) Promoting activities that sup-
12 port community-based family and indi-
13 vidual services and enable individuals with
14 autism spectrum disorders to fully partici-
15 pate in society and achieve good quality-of-
16 life outcomes.

17 “(xii) Collecting data on the outcomes
18 of training and technical assistance pro-
19 grams to meet statewide needs for the ex-
20 pansion of services to individuals with au-
21 tism spectrum disorders.

22 “(E) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The amount
23 of a grant to any entity for a fiscal year under
24 this paragraph shall be not less than \$250,000.

1 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
2 shall reserve 2 percent of the amount appropriated
3 to carry out this subsection for a fiscal year to make
4 a grant to a national organization with dem-
5 onstrated capacity for providing training and tech-
6 nical assistance to—

7 “(A) assist in national dissemination of
8 specific information, including evidence-based
9 best practices, from interdisciplinary training
10 programs, and when appropriate, other entities
11 whose findings would inform the work per-
12 formed by entities awarded grants;

13 “(B) compile and disseminate strategies
14 and materials that prove to be effective in the
15 provision of training and technical assistance so
16 that the entire network can benefit from the
17 models, materials, and practices developed in
18 individual centers;

19 “(C) assist in the coordination of activities
20 of grantees under this subsection;

21 “(D) develop an Internet portal that will
22 provide linkages to each of the individual train-
23 ing initiatives and provide access to training
24 modules, promising training, and technical as-

1 sistance practices and other materials developed
2 by grantees;

3 “(E) serve as a research-based resource for
4 Federal and State policymakers on information
5 concerning the provision of training and tech-
6 nical assistance for the assessment, and provi-
7 sion of supports and services for, individuals
8 with autism spectrum disorders;

9 “(F) partner with Federal, State, and local
10 advocacy organizations to ensure effective dis-
11 semination of research findings to individuals
12 on the autism spectrum;

13 “(G) convene experts from multiple inter-
14 disciplinary training programs, individuals with
15 autism spectrum disorders, and the families of
16 such individuals to discuss and make rec-
17 ommendations with regard to training issues re-
18 lated to assessment, interventions, services,
19 treatment, and supports for individuals with au-
20 tism spectrum disorders; and

21 “(H) undertake any other functions that
22 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

23 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to
25 be appropriated the following:

1 “(A) For fiscal year 2012, \$20,000,000.

2 “(B) For fiscal year 2013, \$22,000,000.

3 “(C) For fiscal year 2014, \$24,000,000.

4 “(D) For fiscal year 2015, \$26,000,000.

5 “(E) For fiscal year 2016, \$28,000,000.

6 “(b) EXPANSION OF THE NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY
7 CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DIS-
8 ABILITIES EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To provide for the estab-
10 lishment of up to 4 new University Centers for Ex-
11 cellence in Developmental Disabilities Education,
12 Research, and Service, the Secretary shall award up
13 to 4 grants to institutions of higher education in ac-
14 cordance with the requirements of this subtitle.

15 “(2) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Except for
16 subsection (a)(3), the provisions of subsection (a)
17 shall apply with respect to grants under this sub-
18 section to the same extent and in the same manner
19 as such provisions apply with respect to grants
20 under subsection (a).

21 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
22 section, the Secretary shall give priority to appli-
23 cants that—

24 “(A) are minority institutions that have
25 demonstrated capacity to meet the requirements

1 of this section and provide services to individ-
 2 uals with autism spectrum disorders and the
 3 families of such individuals; or

4 “(B) are located in a State with one or
 5 more unserved or underserved populations.

6 “(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

7 To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to
 8 be appropriated the following:

9 “(A) For fiscal year 2012, \$2,000,000.

10 “(B) For fiscal year 2013, \$2,200,000.

11 “(C) For fiscal year 2014, \$2,400,000.

12 “(D) For fiscal year 2015, \$2,600,000.

13 “(E) For fiscal year 2016, \$2,800,000.

14 “(5) DEFINITION.—In this subsection:

15 “(A) The term ‘minority institution’ has
 16 the meaning given such term in section 365 of
 17 the Higher Education Act of 1965.

18 “(B) The term ‘University Center for Ex-
 19 cellence in Developmental Disabilities Edu-
 20 cation, Research, and Service’ means a Univer-
 21 sity Center for Excellence in Developmental
 22 Disabilities Education, Research, and Service
 23 that has been or is funded through subtitle D
 24 or this subsection.”.

1 **SEC. 7. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

2 Not later than January 1, 2013, and each January
3 1 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate
4 committees of Congress a report concerning the implemen-
5 tation of this Act, including the amendments made by this
6 Act.

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