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".

SEC. 2. RESEARCH ON THE HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS OF MEDIA ON INFANTS, CHILDREN, 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 DEVELOP8 MENT EFFECTS OF MEDIA ON INFANTS, CHIL9 DREN, AND ADOLESCENTS.

10 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National In-11 stitutes of Health, in coordination with or acting through the Director of the Institute, shall conduct and support 12 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 media, applications, websites, television, motion pictures, 17 artificial intelligence, mobile devices, computers, video 18 19 games, virtual and augmented reality, and other media formats as they become available. Such research shall at-20 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 over time. Such research shall include consideration of 25

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

"(1) COGNITIVE.—The role and impact of 3 4 media use and exposure in the development of chil-5 dren and adolescents within such cognitive areas as 6 language development, executive functioning, attention, creative problem solving skills, visual and spa-7 8 tial skills, literacy, critical thinking, and other learn-9 ing abilities, and the impact of early technology use 10 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 16 17 of media use and exposure on children's and adoles-18 cents' social-emotional competencies, including self-19 awareness, self-regulation, social awareness, relation-20 ship skills, empathy, distress tolerance, perception of 21 social cues, awareness of one's relationship with the 22 media, and decision making, as well as outcomes 23 such as privacy, violence, bullying, depression, anx-24 iety, addiction, obsessive behavior, and suicidal idea-25 tion.

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-Federal experts as needed, shall develop a research agenda 6 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 (such as scientific workshops and literature reviews) to as-11 sess current knowledge and research gaps in this area. 12

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 accordance with this section. Such report shall summarize the
 grants and research funded, by year, under this section.
 "(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec 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