



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 19, 2011

**H.R. 2005
Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2011**

As introduced in the House of Representatives on May 26, 2011

SUMMARY

H.R. 2005 would amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize research, surveillance, and education activities related to autism spectrum disorders (autism) conducted by various agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Those activities are conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the National Institutes for Health (NIH).

The bill would authorize appropriations for autism activities at HHS of \$231 million in 2012 and \$693 million over the 2012-2014 period. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$75 million in 2012 and \$675 million over the 2012-2016 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2005 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2012-2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
CDC						
Authorization Level	22	22	22	0	0	66
Estimated Outlays	10	20	20	10	5	65
HRSA						
Authorization Level	48	48	48	0	0	144
Estimated Outlays	25	40	45	25	5	140
NIH						
Authorization Level	161	161	161	0	0	483
Estimated Outlays	40	130	150	120	30	470
Total Changes						
Authorization Level	231	231	231	0	0	693
Estimated Outlays	75	190	215	155	40	675

Notes: CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration, and NIH = National Institutes of Health.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

The CDC, HRSA, and the NIH administer programs that support activities to prevent, diagnose, and treat autism. Authorization for those activities expires in 2011. H.R. 2005 would authorize funding for those activities through 2014 at a level that is similar to recent years. For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 2005 will be enacted before the end of fiscal year 2011 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year starting with fiscal year 2012. (The bill would also authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011; however, CBO assumed no impact from that authorization.)

The CDC currently administers several surveillance and research programs directed at determining the prevalence of autism and the risk factors for developing autism, as well as raising awareness of the signs of autism for families, health care providers and childcare educators. For those activities, H.R. 2005 would authorize funding of \$22 million for each year between 2012 and 2014 for a total of \$66 million over the 2012-2014 period.

HRSA currently operates several programs to train health care providers in the delivery of care to children with autism and other developmental disabilities. H.R. 2005 would direct the Secretary of HHS to continue such activities to detect and treat autism, and to fund research on interventions to diagnose and treat autistic children at younger ages. For those activities, the bill would authorize funding through 2014 at a level that is similar to recent

years. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$48 million in 2012 and \$144 million over the 2012-2014 period.

As a result of the Combating Autism Act of 2006, NIH established the Autism Centers of Excellence program. This program is a consolidation of Collaborative Programs of Excellence in Autism and Studies to Advance Autism Research and Treatment and consists of six centers and five networks. This bill would authorize funding for those activities through 2014. The authorization of appropriation would be \$161 million in 2012 and \$483 million over the 2012-2014 period.

Based on historical patterns of spending for research, surveillance, and education activities related to autism, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2005 would cost \$75 million in 2012 and \$675 million over the 2012-2016 period, assuming the appropriation of the specified amounts.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2005 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would benefit state, local, and tribal governments that conduct research or provide education and training services related to autism spectrum disorders.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On September 16, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1094, the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act, as reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on September 12, 2011. S. 1094 is similar to H.R. 2005, and their estimated costs are identical.

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