

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5561

[Report No. 117-]

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.

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 --, 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.