

July 30, 2024

U.S. Senate HELP Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Autism Society of America, we write to strongly urge you to pass the Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support (CARES) Act of 2024 (S. 4762).

Since its initial passage in 2006, the Autism CARES Act has been the cornerstone of funding and coordination for Autism research and training programs within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This landmark legislation has led to significant advancements in early intervention services, the development of highly trained interdisciplinary health professionals, a deeper understanding of Autism prevalence, and insights into the co-occurring health conditions often experienced by Autistic individuals. These efforts have collectively enhanced the quality of life for people with Autism and their families.

Despite the progress made in understanding and accepting Autism, much work remains to ensure that every Autistic person can access personalized healthcare, services, and supports tailored to their needs. Significant gaps in access to these essential services persist. The continued investment and improvements provided by the Autism CARES Act of 2024 are crucial for addressing these gaps and fostering ongoing progress.

As the current version of the Autism CARES Act is set to expire on September 30, 2024, we implore you to support and pass S. 4762 when it comes before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Thank you for your consideration and steadfast support for the Autism community.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Banks
President and CEO
Autism Society of America