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Helping HANDS for Autism Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Health
Introduced: Mar 25, 2009
Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 25, 2009)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/706

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]
Party: Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Nov 4, 2009
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 4, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 25, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 1707	Related bill	**Mar 26, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Mar 25, 2009)

Helping Housing, Awareness, and Navigation Demonstration Services for Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders Act of 2009 or the Helping HANDS for Autism Act of 2009 - Amends the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a demonstration program to award grants to eligible entities to develop an autism navigator program to create a more efficient, effective, coordinated use of the health, housing, education, and social service systems for individuals with an autism spectrum disorder.

Directs the Secretary to determine the functions of autism navigators, which may include: (1) case management and psychosocial assessment and care; (2) notifying individuals of autism clinical trials; (3) helping individuals overcome barriers in accessing and securing appropriate services in a timely manner; and (4) coordinating with relevant departments providing services to individuals with an autism spectrum disorder and their families.

Requires a navigator program to provide centralized access for individuals with an autism spectrum disorder to multiple federal and state activities and programs related to autism spectrum disorders.

Requires grantees to collect autism data and ensure confidentiality.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) disseminate a standard curriculum for training first responders in assisting individuals with autism and other cognitive behavioral disabilities and their families during emergencies; and (2) award grants to states and local governments for such training.

Requires the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide for a program for adults with autism spectrum disorder with the goal of providing individualized housing and services.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 25, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 25, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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