

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Improve the Lives of Individuals Living with Tourette Syndrome

***Cosponsor H.R. 619, the Collaborative Academic Research Efforts (CARE) for
Tourette Syndrome Act***

Dear Colleague:

Please join me in supporting legislation to assist individuals and their families living with Tourette syndrome by becoming a cosponsor of H.R. 619, the CARE for Tourette Syndrome Act. This legislation would expand and further coordinate efforts towards research for Tourette syndrome at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Tourette syndrome is an often misunderstood and stigmatized disorder that impacts as many as one in 100 school aged children. While symptoms can be suppressed overtime, too many individuals, particularly children, face the everyday challenge of trying to manage tics whether at school or in various social settings. Through expanded and collaborative research, we can learn more about the cause and treatment of the disorder to help improve the lives of those individuals impacted by Tourette syndrome.

Specifically, this bill would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop a new system to collect data on Tourette syndrome, including the availability of medical and social services for individuals with Tourette syndrome and their families. It would also instruct the Secretary of HHS to award grants to public or nonprofit private entities to establish new Collaborative Research Centers focused on Tourette syndrome research. Such Centers would be established on a regional basis, and would conduct research, including investigations into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control and treatment of Tourette syndrome.

It is important to bring to the forefront the need for an increased commitment to preventing and treating this disorder. It is my hope that through this legislation, we can grasp a better understanding of Tourette syndrome and in turn, help enhance the lives of so many. Please contact Kaylan Koszela in my office at Kaylan.koszela@mail.house.gov or 5-7919 for more information or to become a cosponsor.

Sincerely,

Albio Sires
Member of Congress