

**S. , Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2024**  
**Section-by-Section**

**Section 1. Short Title.**

This Act may be cited as the “Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2024” or the “Autism CARES Act of 2024”.

**Section 2. Programs Relating to Autism.**

This section reauthorizes the Developmental Disabilities Surveillance and Research Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Additionally, the section updates activities of the Health Resources and Services Administration related to Autism Education, Early Detection, and Intervention to include culturally and linguistically appropriate information and education; promote research into the development and validation of reliable diagnostic tools; and promote early screening and use of evidence-based interventions for individuals at increased likelihood for autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. The Secretary of Health and Human Services is directed to prepare and submit a report to Congress to examine the need for developmental-behavioral pediatricians and the feasibility of expanding the developmental-behavioral pediatrician training programs. Further, an emphasis on communication needs is added to research centers or networks that develop and evaluate evidence-based practices and interventions to improve outcomes for individuals with autism spectrum disorder or other developmental disabilities. Lastly, the sunset provision is amended to September 30, 2029.

The section also extends the sunset for the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee and requires the Committee to summarize on an annual basis advances in autism spectrum disorder research. Additionally, the Committee is required to update a report concerning young adults and youth with autism spectrum disorder transitioning to adulthood.

**Section 3. Expansion, Intensification, and Coordination of Activities of National Institutes of Health with Respect to Research on Autism Spectrum Disorder.**

This section directs the Director of the National Institutes of Health to take into consideration the various needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder with respect to services and supports and addressing co-occurring conditions. This section also includes psychiatry, psychology, gerontology, developmental behavioral pediatrics, and audiology as allowable fields of basic and clinical research.

**Section 4. Technical Assistance to Improve Access to Communication Tools.**

This section directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide training and technical assistance to States, Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations, localities, or territories as it pertains to providing individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities with access to evidence-based services, tools, and technologies that support communication needs. It also requires a report to Congress summarizing any technical assistance provided and advancements in the development or evaluation of such evidence-based services, tools, and technologies.