

Fact Sheet on HR. 4965/ S. 2683 “9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act”

With the impending budget shortfall facing the World Trade Center Health Program starting in 2025, U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), and U.S. Representatives Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY-12), Jerrold Nadler (D-NY-10), and Andrew Garbarino (R-NY-2) the bipartisan legislation, [“9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act”](#) (HR.4965/S. 2683). Its purpose is to ensure the adequate funding for the World Trade Center Health Program so it can continue to provide medical treatment and monitoring to injured and ill 9/11 responders and survivors.

The WTCHP was created by Congress in 2010 and was reauthorized in 2015 to remain open until 2090 after years of efforts by 9/11 responders and survivors to get Washington to recognize the health impacts of the toxins at Ground Zero that were impacting thousands. However, in coming years, the World Trade Center Health Program will not have enough funds to provide all the care that is needed for those still suffering the physical and mental impact of 9/11. This includes the responders and survivors who will be newly diagnosed with 9/11-associated cancers caused by their toxic exposures in the coming years.

If the funding shortfall is not addressed, then starting in October 2024, the program will have to stop enrolling additional injured 9/11 responders and survivors who will become ill in the coming years followed by additional cuts in services in coming years.

We can't let that happen.

The World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) currently provides medical treatment and monitoring for over 117,000 9/11 responders and survivors from the World Trade Center and lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and the Shanksville crash site, who live in [every State](#) and [434 out of 435 Congressional Districts](#).

The legislation to fully fund the Health Program was introduced with an initial strong show of bipartisan support and now has over 12 sponsors in the Senate and over 100 in the House with members of Congress from across the country including, Connecticut, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia that continues to grow.

This is similar to the 2019 effort to pass the “The Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act” , That effort dealt with the need to fully fund the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund and authorize it until 2090. That successful effort needs to be replicated again to make sure the World Trade Center Health Program is also fully funded for the life of those still suffering the impact of 9/11.

As the Nation observed the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, this impending budget shortfall needs to be fixed to ensure that the slogan that we will never forget 9/11 is a

reality and that 9/11 responders and survivors will continue to get the care that they need and deserve.

In the Fall of 2021, Representatives Maloney and Nadler were joined by Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee Frank Pallone (D-NJ), that has jurisdiction over the Health Program, [In a successful effort to include in President Bidens Build Back Better Bill](#), the additional 2.86 Billion dollars in funding needed by the World Trade Center Health Program for the next ten years. The funding was contained in the Build Back Better Bill, [HR 5376 Section 31067](#), that passed the House but did not pass the Senate.

The failure of the Build Back Better Bill will mean that the original legislation, HR 4965/S2683 the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act will need to be passed to prevent cuts to medical treatment and services at the World Trade Center Health Program or the provisions of the legislation will have to be included in another bill that will be passing the Congress.

Citizens for the Extension of the James Zadroga Act want to thank the lead sponsors, Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Charles Schumer (D-NY) , and Representatives Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) , Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) and Andrew Garbarino (R-NY) along with all their cosponsors for their efforts on behalf of injured and ill 9/11 responders and survivors to fully fund the World Trade Center health Program We look forward to working with them along with other advocates in the coming years to continue to support the goals of the legislation so that remembering 9/11 should be more than a bumper sticker.

Please join us in making sure your representative in the House or the Senate is a co-sponsor of the bill. You can check if your member of Congress is on the bill by going to our ["Take Action" page](#), type in your address and see if your Representative is on the bill.