



New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders

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For Immediate Release

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NJCTS announces the introduction of federal legislation for Tourette Syndrome

New Jersey Congressman Albio Sires proposes ground-breaking TS bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associated Disorders (NJCTS) is proud to announce the introduction of federal legislation for Tourette Syndrome by U.S. Congressman Albio Sires (D-NJ13).

Titled the Collaborative Academic Research Efforts (CARE) for Tourette Syndrome Act of 2011 with bill number H.R. 3760, the legislation would amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification and coordination of the programs and activities of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with respect to Tourette Syndrome.

"Tourette Syndrome is a misunderstood disorder that affects 1 in 100 people and is too often stigmatized," Congressman Sires says. "While symptoms can be suppressed over time, 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."

Congressman Sires has worked closely with NJCTS Executive Director Faith W. Rice; Dr. Jay A. Tischfield, Director of the Human Genetics Institute at Rutgers University; and other NJCTS leadership to craft this legislation. Says Rice, "New Jersey has changed the face of TS research, education and support through partnerships and collaborations. We hope to model that process nationwide."



New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome Executive Director Faith W. Rice, left, and U.S. Congressman Albio Sires (D-NJ13) visit Rutgers University's NJCTS Sharing Repository in 2010. Sires has proposed federal legislation for Tourette Syndrome.

A primary purpose of this legislation is to establish regional centers of excellence across the country to conduct research into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control and treatment of Tourette Syndrome and associated disorders. New Jersey Center for Tourette

Syndrome & Associated Disorders, the nation's first center of excellence for TS, was established in 2004.

This bill was assigned on Dec. 20 to the House Energy and Commerce Committee which will consider it before sending it on to the House of Representatives or Senate as a whole.

More information will follow over the next several weeks. Please contact NJCTS at 908-575-7350 or www.njcts.org, or the office of [Congressman Sires](#) with any questions you might have or to read the official Congressional release.

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*New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders, Inc.
Collaborative partnerships for the TS community.*