

NJ's Federal Representatives Show Strong Support for Individuals with Tourette Syndrome

New Jersey residents living in U.S. Representative Leonard Lance's district recently met with the Congressman, sharing their experiences with Tourette Syndrome (TS) and related concerns and questions, according to a press release issued by the New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders (NJCTS). "Among the topics discussed were getting more education about Tourette into schools and how NJCTS already has helped bridge that gap through its in-service presentations, educational conferences and awareness activities," NJCTS reported.

Rep. Lance has been a longtime supporter of NJCTS. For example, earlier this year, he signed on as a co-sponsor for the bi-partisan Collaborative Academic Research Efforts for Tourette Syndrome Act of 2011 (H.R. 3760), which was introduced by Rep. Albio Sires (NJ-13th District).

Senator Robert Menendez recently introduced the Senate version of this bill (S. 2321). "This legislation builds on current National Institutes of Health activities on Tourette Syndrome in two important ways. First, the bill expands and intensifies data collection on TS to improve information on the prevalence of the disease. Secondly, the bill establishes Centers of Excellence to undertake extensive research into the causes, treatments, diagnosis and preventions of TS," said Senator Menendez during the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health's recent annual *Shining Lights: Outstanding Leaders for a Brighter Future for Hispanics* awards gala. At this event, Sen. Menendez was honored with the *Lifetime Achievement Award for Eliminating Health and Behavioral Health Disparities for Hispanics*.

Click [here](#) to read NJCTS' press release about the federal legislation.

