COMPARISON OF S. 2238/H.R.4151 (117TH CONGRESS) with S.1800/HR3946 - FASD RESPECT ACT

S. 1800/HR3946, the FASD Respect Act, reauthorizes the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish or continue federal FASD prevention, research and service programs and authorizes such sums as necessary for FY2024- FY2028. [amending Part O of title III of the Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280f et seq)].

Changes from S.2238/HR4151 include:

- Deletion of authorization by specific HHS agencies including CDC, SAMHSA, and HRSA, and also Departments of Justice and Education and the NIAAA.
- Provides general authority to HHS to award grants, cooperative agreements and contracts and provide technical assistance for FASD research, awareness and prevention and service programs in communities of care, including foster care, adoption, social work, education, vocational training, and justice.

Key provisions from S.2238/HR4151 included in the revised legislation, include:

**FASD diagnosis.** Integrating into surveillance practice an evidence-based standard case definition for fetal alcohol syndrome and, in collaboration with other Federal and outside partners, support organizations of appropriate medical and mental health professionals in their development and refinement of evidence-based clinical diagnostic guidelines and criteria for all fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

**Definition of FASD-Informed.** Support or intervention programs using culturally and linguistically informed evidence-based or practice-based interventions and appropriate societal supports to support an improved quality of life for an individual with FASD and the family of such individual.

**Building State and Tribal Capacity** – grant funding authorized to State and Tribal nations for the identification, treatment, and support of individuals with FASD and their families, which may include utilizing and adapting existing related federal, State or Tribal programs to include FASD identification and FASD-informed support; developing and expanding screening and diagnostic capacity for FASD; developing, implementing, and evaluating targeted FASD-informed intervention programs; increasing awareness of FASD; providing training for professionals across relevant sectors; and, disseminating information about FASD and support services to affected individuals and their families.
FASD Center For Excellence - awarding of grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts for the purpose of establishing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Centers for Excellence to build local, Tribal, State, and national capacities to prevent the occurrence of FASD and other related adverse conditions, and to respond to the needs of individuals with FASD and their families.

REMOVES THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

Definition of FASD.

Research On FASD And Related Conditions (NIAAA) – Establishes a research program for FASD; would award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

Surveillance, Public Health Research, and Prevention Activities (CDC). Directs CDC to facilitate surveillance, public health research, and prevention of FASD.

Promoting Community Partnerships (HRSA). Funding to enhance, or improve community partnerships to integrate FASD services into existing programs and services.

Development Of Best Practices (HRSA). Funding for pilot projects to identify, implement and evaluate best practices in educating children with FASD; educating numerous professionals (justice and child welfare) in identification, treatment, and support of those with FASD.

Transitional Services (HRSA) – Services For Adults. Funding to establish integrated systems for providing transitional services for adults affected by prenatal alcohol exposure and evaluating such services for their effectiveness.

Services For Individuals With FASD (SAMHSA). Funding for pilot programs to provide services to individuals with FASD.

Prevention, Intervention, And Services In The Education System (Education). Funding to the Department of Education to conduct and disseminate training on a FASD.

Prevention, Intervention, And Services In The Justice System (DOJ). Funding to Department of Justice for FASD surveillance and training in justice system.
National Advisory Council On FASD. Establishes an advisory council to be known as the National Advisory Council on FASD to foster coordination and cooperation among all government agencies, academic bodies and community groups that conduct or support FASD research, programs, and surveillance.

Interagency Coordinating Committee On Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Provides for the continuation of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders to 1) coordinate activities conducted by the Federal Government on FASD, including convening meetings, establishing work groups, sharing information, and facilitating and promoting collaborative projects among Federal agencies, the National Advisory Council on FASD and outside partners; and 2) develop priority areas considering recommendations from the National Advisory Council on FASD.

APPROPRIATIONS. S.2238/H.R.4151 provided specific appropriations totaling $118 million. The new legislation provides for “such sums as necessary”.