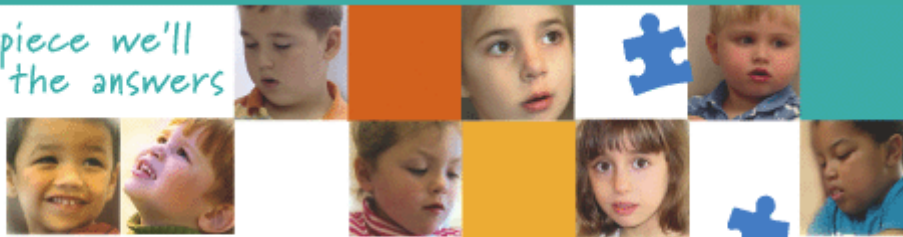


Piece by piece we'll
find the answers



Autism Advocacy

Chairman Barton Stops Combating Autism Act - For Now

The refusal of House Committee on Energy and Commerce Chairman Joe Barton (R-TX) to move the Combating Autism Act (S.843) from his committee and bring it to the floor for a vote prior to the pre-election recess is a devastating blow to people with autism and their families. However, the fight for this critical legislation continues.

In his unwillingness to act on a bill meticulously crafted over 18 months and unanimously passed by the United States Senate, Congressman Barton has decided to put politics before the welfare of our children. Hundreds of senators and congress members from both sides of the aisle have met with families impacted by autism, been moved by their plight and signed on in support of the Combating Autism Act. Congressman Barton, on the other hand, allowed his determination to pass his own "NIH reform" legislation, a bill with almost no chance of passing the Senate this term, to supersede any concern for the millions of Americans whose struggles with autism are their everyday reality. His actions also constitute an attack on his congressional colleagues, preventing over 200 congressional supporters of the Combating Autism Act from fulfilling the wishes of their constituents.

Autism is an epidemic that now affects one in every 166 of our children, yet federal funding for autism remains woefully insufficient. The Combating Autism Act would begin to address this inequity by authorizing \$920 million over five years toward treatment and research into the causes -- genetic, environmental or otherwise -- of the country's fastest-growing childhood developmental disorder.

Let Chairman Barton know how you feel! Call Barton today and let him know that it is unacceptable for an elected official to put personal, political interests ahead of your family's needs! Call Rep. Barton today at 202-225-2002. Keep calling until you get through. Let's jam his phone lines and make ourselves heard.

Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert (R-IL) has thus far refused to intervene on our children's behalf. His Office of the Speaker website states: "At home we put children first, and Republicans are doing just that in the House." **Ask him to back that up and put S.843 on the House suspension calendar!** Call Speaker Hastert at 202-225-0600 and ask him to do what's right for children with autism.

Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) has been unwilling to stand up to Chairman Barton! Let him know you expect him to show the leadership it takes to do the right thing for hundreds of thousands of children and **put S.843 on the House suspension calendar.** Call Majority Leader Boehner at 202-225-4000 today and make your voice heard!

Our fight is far from over! Call all three representatives today and let them hear the full voice of the autism community. We will speak for our children, because they cannot.

Thank you for your support! For complete information about the Combating Autism Act of 2006, or to contact us, go to <http://www.combatautism.org/>.

About The Combating Autism Act of 2006

The Combating Autism Act of 2006 builds on the provisions of the Children's Health Act of 2000 and would authorize approximately \$920 million in federal funds over five years to combat autism through research, screening, intervention and education.

The Combating Autism Act of 2006 is supported by the following autism organizations:

Autism One

Autism Society of America

Autism Speaks

COSAC

Cure Autism Now

Dan Marino Foundation

Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation

First Signs

Generation Rescue

The Help Group

National Autism Association

Organization for Autism Research

S.A.F.E. Inc.

SafeMinds

Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center

Talk About Curing Autism

TalkAutism

The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology

Unlocking Autism

US Autism and Asperger Association