

The Pediatric, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancer Survivorship Research and Quality of Life Act of 2007” (H.R. 4450/S.2877)

Key Messages

- The population of survivors of childhood cancers has grown exponentially over the years.
- Approximately 2/3 of survivors of childhood cancers will have at least one life-altering effect from their treatment. One-fourth experience effects that are serious or life threatening. These effects from treatment may include neurological or cognitive effects, such as learning disabilities, cardiac or pulmonary problems, a compromised immune system, and increased risk for other cancers.
- With so many survivors experiencing late effects, it is critical that resources are made available to all childhood cancer survivors, especially those in minority or underserved communities.
- The bill is based on recommendations from The 2003 Institute of Medicine report, “Childhood Cancer Survivorship: Improving Care and Quality of Life” and subsequent IOM reports on cancer survivorship. These reports have recommended more research into late effects, long-term follow-up guidelines, provider education and awareness, and improved access to long-term care services.
- The Childhood Cancer Survivorship Act would address many of these recommendations by:
 - Establishing clinics for comprehensive long-term follow-up services for survivors
 - Providing grants to improve access to care for survivors of childhood cancer
 - Developing Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cancer control programs aimed at providing guidance to states and encouraging them to improve systems of care for survivors of childhood cancer.