

# Resilience Investment, Support and Expansion (RISE) from Trauma Act

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## BACKGROUND

When children experience trauma or abuse, they can suffer from a wide range of both short and long term health impacts. Decades of research, including the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study, have established the link between a child's exposure to traumatic events, its effect on neurological and behavioral development, and long-term consequences. Left unaddressed, childhood exposure to traumatic events can impact mental and physical wellbeing, healthy relationships, and academic achievement—and fuel the cycle of violence, addiction, and poverty.

This bipartisan legislation would fund coordinated programming to increase support for children who have been exposed to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma, including witnessing community violence, parental addiction, or abuse. This act further funds community-based efforts to prevent and mitigate the impacts of trauma, and expands training and workforce development efforts to support health care, education, social services, first responders, and community leaders to foster resilience and deliver services to heal the impacts of trauma.

The RISE from Trauma Act would expand the trauma-informed workforce in schools, health care settings, social services, first responders, and the justice system, and increase resources for communities to address the impact of trauma.

## OVERVIEW

Nearly 35 million children have had at least one traumatic experience, and nearly two-thirds of children have been exposed to violence. Too few children who experience trauma are supported with the right care, often due to lack of trained providers, clinical resources, or because it can be misunderstood. Those who never receive help can carry the weight of these emotional scars for life.

The impact of trauma can be prevented and mitigated by training parents, teachers, and others to provide safe, stable, nurturing environments for children and evidence-based interventions to foster coping and resilience skills.



Stepping in early to help children exposed to violence and trauma may be one of the single most important strategies we have for breaking cycles of violence and abuse and reducing substance abuse and addiction.

Esta Soler



### **SPECIFICALLY, THE RISE FROM TRAUMA ACT:**

- Authorizes funds for an annual HHS grant program to fund community-based coalitions that coordinate stakeholders and deliver targeted local services to address trauma;
- Creates a new HHS grant program to support hospital-based trauma interventions, such as for patients that suffer violent injuries, in order to address mental health needs, prevent re-injury, and improve long-term outcomes;
- Increases funding for the National Health Service Corps loan repayment program, in order to recruit more mental health clinicians—including from under-represented populations—to serve in schools;
- Enhances federal training programs at HHS, U.S. Department of Justice, and the U.S. Department of Education to provide more tools for early childhood clinicians, teachers, school leaders, first responders, and community leaders, and including additional minority serving institutions to be eligible for the grant;
- Establishes training and certification guidelines to enable insurance reimbursement for community figures—such as mentors, peers, and faith leaders—to address trauma;
- Reauthorizes the Trauma Support Services in Schools Grant Program;
- Reauthorizes the National Child Traumatic Stress Network;
- Reauthorizes the CDC Surveillance and Data Collection Activities; and,
- Reauthorizes the Interagency Taskforce on Trauma Informed Care.

### **SPONSORS**

- Representative Mike Gallagher (R-WI 8)
- Representative Danny Davis (D-IL 7)