



The National **Fragile X** Foundation
Support-Awareness-Education-Research-Advocacy

Advocacy Update AND ACTION ALERT-Please Act Today

July 23, 2007

From: National Fragile X Foundation Washington Team

To: All Advocates

**ADVOCATE SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO CREATE
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

A bill has been recently introduced in Congress that would afford families the ability to save for the future. We are extremely grateful to U.S. Congressman Andrew Crenshaw of Florida, who has worked with the intellectual disability community to introduce the ***Financial Security Accounts for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2007*** (H.R.2370).

We are honored to have the bipartisan support of 38 co-sponsors as of July 13, 2007. To find out if your Member of Congress is a co-sponsor, please review the list which follows this Action Alert.

The Act would provide individuals with disabilities and their families the same opportunity for long-term savings that other Americans now enjoy, but with the flexibility to accommodate the uncertainty and wider range of expenses that life with a disability brings. *The money saved in these accounts would not be counted in the determination of eligibility for Social Security or Medicaid benefits.* Important aspects of the bill include:

- Anyone can contribute to the financial security of a loved one;
- Accounts are to be used for qualified expenses not compensated for by insurance or other sources:
 - Educational expenses,
 - Medical and dental care,
 - Community-based support services,
 - Employment training and support,
 - Moving,
 - Daily subsistence,
 - Assistive technology, and
 - After the age of 18, housing and transportation expenses;
- Under the proposal, an individual with a disability is defined as anyone currently receiving supplemental security income benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act, or an individual that would be eligible for these benefits;
- Contributions are capped at \$500,000.

ADVOCACY ACTION REQUESTED

- If your Member of Congress is Representative Crenshaw or one of the original cosponsors listed below, please email them to thank them for supporting this important legislation.

- If your Member of Congress is **NOT** a co--sponsor, please email them to request their support.

The NFXF's web based congressional communication system will automatically select an appropriate sample letter for you based upon the status of your Representative and allow you to fill in your personal information and send your letter.

[CLICK HERE TO PREPARE AND SEND YOUR LETTER NOW](#)

If the link above does not work copy and paste the following in your browser window:

<http://63.66.87.48/cweb4/index.cfm?orgcode=nfxf&hotissue=13>

Thank you for assisting in this important effort.

Your National Fragile X Foundation Washington Team

**H.R. 2370 Financial Security Accounts for Individuals with Disabilities
Current Co-Sponsors as of July 13, 2007**

1. Rep. Kendrick Meek(D-FL)
2. Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite(R-FL)
3. Rep. Dave Camp(R-MI)
4. Rep. Tom Davis(R-VA)
5. Rep. Alcee Hastings(D-FL)
6. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr.(D-IL)
7. Rep. Peter King(R-NY)
8. Rep. John McHugh(R-NY)
9. Rep. Jeff Miller(R-FL)
10. Rep. Corrine Brown(D-FL)
11. Rep. Dan Burton(R-IN)
12. Rep. Barbara Cubin(R-WY)
13. Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart(R-FL)
14. Rep. Jay Inslee(D-WA)
15. Rep. Rick Keller(R-FL)
16. Rep. Connie Mack(R-FL)
17. Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rodgers(R-WA)
18. Rep. John Mica(R-FL)
19. Rep. Ron Paul(R-TX)
20. Rep. Jim Ramstad(R-MN)
21. Rep. Pete Sessions(R-TX)
22. Rep. Robert Wexler(D-FL)
23. Rep. Frank Wolf(R-VA)
24. Rep. Adam Putnam(R-FL)
25. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen(R-FL)
26. Rep. Dave Weldon(R-FL)
27. Rep. Joe Wilson(R-SC)
28. Rep. Tom Feeney(R-FL)
29. Rep. David Dreier(R-CA)
30. Rep. Emmanuel Cleaver(D-MO)
31. Rep. Todd Russell-Platts(R-PA)
32. Rep. David Davis(R-TN)
33. Rep. Mary Bono(R-CA)
34. Rep. Vernon Ehlers(R-MI)
35. Rep. Gus Bilirakis(R-FL)
36. Rep. James Moran(D-VA)
37. Rep. Randy Forbes(R-VA)
38. Rep. Danny Davis(D-IL)