9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act of 2024

Due to increasing medical costs and numbers of ill responders and survivors coming forward the funding formula for the WTC Health Program will not provide enough funds to cover all the care that is needed for those still suffering the physical and mental impact of 9/11.

An effort to secure funding was on the verge of succeeding in December 2024 when the end of the year Omnibus Legislation for the Continuing Resolution, <u>HR. 10445</u>, contained a provision to deal with the impending budget deficit in the program. That agreed upon bill failed to be passed.

Unless Congress acts and provides the needed funding to deal with the impending budget shortfall in 2024, the WTC Health Program will face service cuts to 9/11 responders and survivors. Senator Gillibrand and Congressman Garbarino are planning to introduce a new bill to fix the funding deficit and prevent the cuts to services this month. For more information visit, www.911healthwatch.org.

To fix the projected funding shortfall Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Charles Schumer (D-NY), Robert Casey (D-PA), Mark Warner (D-VA), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Mike Braun (R-IN), along with Members of Congress Andrew Garbarino (R-NY), Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Anthony D'Esposito (R-NY), Dan Goldman (D-NY) and other members, introduced new bi-partisan legislation, the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act of 2024 HR. 9101/S. 4724 in July of 2024.

This legislation would have:

- 1. Provide funding to prevent cuts in services and deal with the program's projected budget deficit over the next ten years.
- 2. Fix the funding formula after FY2034 to ensure adequate future funding for the life of program until it expires in 2090.
- 3. Increase funding for research and data collection on 9/11 conditions.
- 4. Make certain technical corrections to the current statute.
- 5. Provide for its cost to be fully paid for.

This effort was on the verge of succeeding in December 2024 when the end of the year Omnibus Legislation for the Continuing Resolution, <u>HR. 10445</u>, contained a provision to deal with the impending budget deficit in the program.

<u>That agreed on bill failed to be passed</u>; instead a version of the continuing resolution was passed without this provision and many other agreed to provisions leaving the World Trade Center Health Program funding issue still unresolved at the end of 2024.

Senator Gillibrand and Congressman Garbarino are planning to introduce a new bill to fix the funding deficit and prevent the cuts to services this month.

Information provided by 9/11healthwatch.org