



CHILDHOOD CANCER SURVIVORSHIP, TREATMENT, ACCESS AND RESEARCH (STAR) REAUTHORIZATION ACT

- Childhood Cancer STAR Act signed into law on **June 5, 2018** (Public Law No: 115-180)
- The most **comprehensive childhood** cancer bill in history.
- For the last four years, Congress provided **\$30 million** each year to fund the programs created by the STAR Act.
- **Please cosponsor the Childhood Cancer STAR Reauthorization Act** to allow STAR Act programs to continue for the next five years.

The Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act is the most comprehensive childhood cancer bill ever signed into law. It expands opportunities for childhood cancer research, improves efforts to identify and track childhood cancer incidences, and enhances the quality of life for childhood cancer survivors.

Expanding Opportunities for Childhood Cancer Research: Due to the relatively small population of children with cancer and the geographic distance between these children, researching childhood cancer can be challenging. As such, the Childhood Cancer STAR Act authorizes the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to expand existing efforts to collect biospecimens for childhood cancer patients enrolled in NCI-sponsored clinical trials to collect and maintain relevant clinical, biological, and demographic information on all children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer.

Improving Childhood Cancer Surveillance: Building upon previous efforts, the Childhood Cancer STAR Act authorizes grants to state cancer registries to identify and track incidences of child, adolescent, and young adult cancer. This funding is being used to identify and train reporters of childhood cancer cases, secure infrastructure to ensure early reporting and capture of child cancer incidences, and support the collection of cases into a national childhood cancer registry.

Improving Quality of Life for Childhood Cancer Survivors: By the age of 50, more than 99% of childhood cancer survivors have had a chronic health problem, and 96% have experienced a severe or life-threatening condition caused by the toxicity of the treatment that initially saved their life. The Childhood Cancer STAR Act enhances research on the late effects of childhood cancers; improves collaboration among providers so that doctors are better able to care for this population as they age; and begins to explore innovative models of care for childhood cancer survivors.

Ensuring Pediatric Expertise at the National Institutes of Health (NIH): The Childhood Cancer STAR Act requires the inclusion of at least one pediatric oncologist on the National Cancer Advisory Board and improves childhood health reporting requirements to include pediatric cancer.