

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1356

Expressing support for the designation of October 9 through October 16, 2024, as “National Dyspraxia/Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) Awareness Week” and a commitment to raise awareness of dyspraxia/DCD in the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 2024

Mr. LAWLER (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of October 9 through October 16, 2024, as “National Dyspraxia/Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) Awareness Week” and a commitment to raise awareness of dyspraxia/DCD in the United States.

Whereas developmental coordination disorder (DCD), also referred to as dyspraxia, is a neurodevelopmental condition that does not affect cognition, but affects fine and gross motor skills such as balance, coordination, and manual dexterity;

Whereas, according to the National Institutes of Health, dyspraxia/DCD is a lifelong disorder;

Whereas dyspraxia/DCD is as common as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and affects approximately 5 to 6 percent of the population (approximately 20,000,000, or 1 in 20, Americans), yet is unfamiliar to many parents, teachers, and health care professionals and is consequently underdiagnosed, misdiagnosed, and largely untreated;

Whereas there is a need to spread awareness among educators and employers about the disorder and for well-trained health care and school-based professionals capable of conducting proper diagnosis and treatment;

Whereas there is no cure for dyspraxia/DCD, but it can be managed through various types of therapies (speech, physical, and occupational therapies as well as mental health counseling);

Whereas there has been little research of this condition in the United States compared with many other developed countries, which has led to a lack of diagnostic and treatment services for individuals affected by dyspraxia/DCD in this country;

Whereas individuals with dyspraxia/DCD often experience symptoms related to speech production and intelligibility, attention, processing speed, and executive functioning (planning, organizing, and time management), and it commonly co-occurs with other neurodevelopmental disorders including ADHD and learning disorders;

Whereas dyspraxia/DCD profoundly affects quality of life and presents significant challenges at school and in the workplace that can be mitigated with early diagnosis, treatment, and appropriate support at home, school, and work;

Whereas secondary consequences of undiagnosed dyspraxia/DCD often include social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health issues including low self-esteem, social isolation, anxiety, and depression; and

Whereas low-income and minority communities are particularly underserved by existing dyspraxia/DCD resources: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) recognizes the need for greater public  
3       awareness of dyspraxia/developmental coordination  
4       disorder (DCD) and commits to supporting these ef-  
5       forts;

6           (2) expresses support for the designation of  
7       “National Dyspraxia/Developmental Coordination  
8       Disorder (DCD) Awareness Week”;

9           (3) supports the goals of “National Dyspraxia/  
10      Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) Aware-  
11      ness Week”, which are to raise awareness of  
12      dyspraxia/DCD among the general public, improve  
13      services and care for persons affected by dyspraxia/  
14      DCD, and accelerate research on dyspraxia/DCD;

15          (4) recognizes individuals with dyspraxia/DCD  
16      and their families who face challenges due to their  
17      diagnosis; and

18          (5) encourages States, territories, and localities  
19      to support the goals of “National Dyspraxia/Devel-

- 1 Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) Awareness
- 2 Week”.

