



Brain Injury Association of America

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The mission of the Brain Injury Association of America is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education and advocacy.

Facts:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that at least 5.3 million Americans currently live with disabilities resulting from a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and 1.5 million Americans sustain a TBI each year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the risk of TBI is highest among adolescents, young adults, and people over the age of 75.

Cost of TBI: The cost of TBI in the U.S. is estimated to be \$48.3 billion annually; Hospitalization accounts for \$31.7 billion, and fatal brain injuries cost the nation \$16.6 billion each year.

March 2004

Support Adequate Funding of the Traumatic Brain Injury Act in FY 2005

Definition of Brain Injury:

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is an insult to the brain, not of a degenerative or congenital nature, caused by an external physical force that may produce a diminished or altered state of consciousness, which results in an impairment of cognitive abilities or physical functioning. It also can result in the disturbance of behavioral or emotional functioning.

*Adopted by the Association's Board of Directors, February 22, 1986.
(Not intended as an exclusive statement of the population served by the Association.)*

Traumatic Brain Injury Act:

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Act (P.L. 104-166) is the only Federal law that specifically addresses the issues faced by people with TBI. This law represents a foundation for coordinated and balanced public policy in prevention, education, research and community-living for people living with a TBI and their families. It was reauthorized as part of the Children's Health Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-310). The TBI Act authorizes Federal funding of several programs:

- ▲ **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** research activities to conduct state surveillance studies, report TBI incidence data and other prevention-related projects, including public education/awareness/outreach campaigns.
- ▲ **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** state grant program for the purpose of carrying out projects to improve health and community-based services for individuals with TBI and their families. The program includes planning, implementation and post demonstration activities.
- ▲ **Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Services State Grants for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury** program in HRSA expands the P&A system by protecting the rights of persons with TBI. Authorized under P.L. 106-310, the program is intended to provide information and referrals, individual and family advocacy, legal representation and assistance in self-advocacy.

Brain Injury Association of America: Funding Priorities for FY 2005:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): \$8.7 million (a \$3.5 million increase over FY 2004)

The TBI Act Amendments of 2000, as part of the Children's Health Act (P.L. 106-310) directed the CDC to build upon its work with state registries to collect information that would help improve service delivery to people who have sustained a TBI, to expand monitoring of the incidence and prevalence of TBI to include all age groups and individuals in a variety of institutional settings and to report to Congress on the incidence and prevalence of "mild" TBI.

- ▲ The Association requests \$1.425 million to implement year-three expansion of the new **National Information Center for Traumatic Brain Injury (NICTBI)** - a "one call" national information center that provides persons with brain injury, their families and those who serve them with toll-free information on State-specific resources and linkage to services.
No State should be left behind.

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- ▲ The Association requests \$7.275 to enable the CDC to fulfill its duties under the TBI Act Amendments of 2000, as part of the Children's Health Act (P.L. 106-310), such as monitoring the outcomes and service needs of people who sustain injuries, including TBI, during mass casualty events such as terrorist attacks; strengthening support for State and local efforts to collect data on TBI; increasing education and awareness efforts; conducting public health research related to TBI and collecting annual incidence and outcome data on "mild" TBI.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) TBI State Grant Program: \$9.943 million (a \$3.4 million increase over FY 2004)

The HRSA, Maternal and Child Health Bureau's (MCHB) Federal TBI Program was established under the TBI Act (P.L. 104-166) to improve access to health and other services for persons with TBI and their families by awarding competitive grants to States and Territories in three grant categories: For the first time in the history of the Federal TBI Program, HRSA State grant applications exceeded Federal appropriations in FY 04. This fact demonstrates the success of the Program.

- ▲ The Association requests \$375,000 to allow the eligible 5 States and Territories in FY 2005 to apply for planning grants up to \$75,000 for a 2-year period to develop core capacity to serve individuals with TBI and their families.
- ▲ The Association requests \$4.2 million to allow the eligible 21 States to apply for implementation grants up to \$200,000 for a 3-year period to implement one or more components of their action plan (including identifying promising practices in service coordination, work re-entry, school transitioning, consumer and professional training, interagency and private sector collaboration and program outcome measures).
- ▲ The Association requests \$3.0 million to allow the 30 eligible States to apply for a first, second or third post-demonstration grant - up to \$100,00 for a 1-year period to build upon or replicate promising practices demonstrated through implementation grants.
- ▲ The Association requests \$2.368 million to support the cost of program support contracts. HRSA/MCHB awards contracts and cooperative agreements as needed to support the Federal TBI Program.
No State should be left behind.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Protection and Advocacy Program for TBI: \$6 million (a \$3.0 million increase over FY 2004)

The TBI Act Amendments of 2000, as part of the Children's Health Act (P.L. 106-310) directed HRSA to establish a new State-based TBI Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Services Program. The law authorizes \$5.0 million in the first year and such sums as necessary in subsequent years. The statute stipulates that the appropriation must exceed \$2.7 million before grants may be awarded to every State.

- ▲ The Association requests \$6.0 million to trigger a formula under the TBI Act that would increase allotments in all States and would ensure that each State can provide a significant program of brain injury protection and advocacy with an appropriate level of staff time and expertise.
No State should be left behind.

National Institutes of Health (NIH): Report Language requested

We request that NIH build upon its work in brain injury rehabilitation at the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation and Research (NCMRR) and to continue and expand conducting basic and translational clinical research on TBI through the National Institute on Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).

NCMRR: We request that you include report language to assure the continuation of this important initiative.

NINDS: It is imperative that we continue to support basic research into the neurophysiology and mechanisms of TBI. We request that you include report language to ensure that NINDS increase core funding to \$2.0 million for each of its six Centers (NINDS currently funds 6 bench science Centers at \$1.0 million each).

The Following Organizations endorse the FY 2005 funding requests for the TBI Act:

- ▲ Brain Injury Association of America
- ▲ Coalition for American Trauma Care
- ▲ National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems
- ▲ National Association of State Head Injury Administrators