

ACTION ALERT! GINA

The Alpha-1 Community Joins the Genetic Alliance and Coalition of Genetic Fairness in Taking Action to Pass Genetic Nondiscrimination (GINA) Legislation

We **must** all work together to push GINA to success in the Senate or it will NEVER become law. Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) has placed a hold on S.358, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, which means that the bill has not been brought to the Senate floor for a vote despite passage in the US House of Representatives and approval of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee which has jurisdiction. **We must let Senator Harry Reid (D-NV), Senate Majority Leader, know that the Alpha-1 Community wants this bill to come to the Senate floor for a vote. You must let your Senators know that they need to ask Senator Reid to take action.** Please spread the word! Ask your friends, family, coworkers, and others in your community to make calls. **Together we can make this happen, but only if the Senate knows how important this is to you, your family and to all Americans.**

Please take the following action now!

- 1. Call Senator Reid in his Washington, DC office at 202-224-3542 and use the following script.**

My name is _____. I am calling to ask Senator Reid to bring the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (S.358) to the Senate floor for a vote. This legislation provides fundamental protections against the misuse of genetic information in health insurance and employment decisions. The bill passed the House in April 2007 by a 420-3 vote and unanimously passed the Senate in the 108th and 109th Congresses. I encourage Senator Reid to take swift action to see this legislation to success.

- 2. If your Senator is on the list below as a current Co-Sponsor of GINA, call the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121, ask for your Senator's office, and:**

- Identify yourself with your name and your city or town of residence. It is likely that your Senator will not be available to take your call. If that is the case, ask to leave your message for the Senator with his or her secretary.
- Thank the Senator for sponsoring S.358, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and ask that the Senator contact Senator Reid and request him to bring GINA to the floor for a vote.
- Explain that this issue is vital to you personally, to your family members and to all Americans.

3. If your Senator is not a Co-Sponsor of the GINA bill, call the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121, ask for your Senator's office, and:

- Identify yourself with your name and your city or town of residence. It is likely that a Senator will not be available to take your call. If that is the case, ask to leave your message for the Senator with his or her secretary.
- Ask the Senator to take a stand in support of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (S 358) by co-sponsoring this legislation and by contacting Senator Reid and asking him to bring GINA to the floor for a vote;
- Explain that this issue is vital to you personally, to your family members and to all Americans.

The following members of the Senate are Co-Sponsors of S 358

Sen Allard, Wayne [CO] - 1/22/2007
Sen Bennett, Robert F. [UT] - 1/30/2008
Sen Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [DE] - 1/22/2007
Sen Bingaman, Jeff [NM] - 1/22/2007
Sen Brown, Sherrod [OH] - 1/22/2007
Sen Cantwell, Maria [WA] - 1/25/2007
Sen Cardin, Benjamin L. [MD] - 1/22/2007
Sen Casey, Robert P., Jr. [PA] - 9/28/2007
Sen Clinton, Hillary Rodham [NY] - 1/22/2007
Sen Collins, Susan M. [ME] - 1/22/2007
Sen Dodd, Christopher J. [CT] - 1/22/2007
Sen Durbin, Richard [IL] - 6/20/2007
Sen Enzi, Michael B. [WY] - 1/22/2007
Sen Gregg, Judd [NH] - 1/22/2007
Sen Hagel, Chuck [NE] - 3/8/2007
Sen Harkin, Tom [IA] - 1/22/2007
Sen Hatch, Orrin G. [UT] - 1/22/2007
Sen Inouye, Daniel K. [HI] - 4/25/2007

Sen Johnson, Tim [SD] - 7/30/2007
Sen Kennedy, Edward M. [MA] - 1/22/2007
Sen Lautenberg, Frank R. [NJ] - 1/22/2007
Sen Leahy, Patrick J. [VT] - 1/24/2007
Sen Levin, Carl [MI] - 10/19/2007
Sen Lieberman, Joseph I. [CT] - 4/25/2007
Sen Menendez, Robert [NJ] - 3/20/2007
Sen Mikulski, Barbara A. [MD] - 1/22/2007
Sen Murkowski, Lisa [AK] - 1/22/2007
Sen Murray, Patty [WA] - 1/22/2007
Sen Nelson, Bill [FL] - 1/22/2007
Sen Obama, Barack [IL] - 1/22/2007
Sen Pryor, Mark L. [AR] - 4/11/2007
Sen Reed, Jack [RI] - 1/22/2007
Sen Salazar, Ken [CO] - 1/22/2007
Sen Sanders, Bernard [VT] - 1/22/2007
Sen Specter, Arlen [PA] - 3/20/2007
Sen Stabenow, Debbie [MI] - 4/25/2007
Sen Warner, John [VA] - 1/29/2007

We thank the Genetic Alliance and the Coalition for Genetic Fairness for their continued commitment to GINA and for sharing content included in this Action Alert.