

N.O. F.A.S. Weekly Roundup

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National & State

FEATURES

Policy

[Senators reintroduce FASD bill: "Advancing FASD Research, Prevention, and Services Act"](#) U.S. Senators Tim Johnson (D-SD), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Mark Begich (D-AK) reintroduced the *Advancing FASD Research, Prevention, and Services Act* on February 7th, calling for continuing attention and investment in the federal response to FASD. The bill reauthorizes activities at the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and includes provisions addressing FASD within the Departments of Education and Justice. The bill would provide federal grants for pilot projects to determine and implement the best practices for educating children with FASD within school systems, as well as educating professionals about services for children. Funding would also be made available to improve services for individuals who experience trouble with the law and become involved in the Juvenile or criminal justice systems. Prospects for a companion bill in the House of Representatives are uncertain. NOFAS encourages advocates to contact their U.S. Senators and urge them to consider cosponsoring the legislation.

Article, The Daily Republic, February 2013

[Video: Interviews on the Advancing FASD Research, Prevention & Services Act](#) This video was put out by Senator Lisa Murkowski's office. It includes interviews with Dylan Conduzzi, FASD Coordinator for Assets, Inc., Cheri Scott, Founder of Stone Soup Group, and Suzie Klein, Parent Navigator for Stone Soup Group.

Resource

Directory

Find an FASD resource in your area.



Join the *Friends of NOFAS* today!

Join the Friends of NOFAS, a group of individuals who work to prevent alcohol-related birth defects and support children and adults living with FASD. **As a member you will receive a 20% discount on NOFAS publications and materials, free or discounted admission to NOFAS events, and access to legislative and policy briefings.**

Community

[Alcohol: An unfortunate teratogen](#) Dr. Erin Tracy of Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School writes this overview of the effects of prenatal alcohol use and FASDs, confusing messages to women in the media, addresses whether providers could be better informed, and discusses screening and intervention. The concluding paragraph reads: “There aren’t that many proven teratogens in our profession, and there are none that involve behavior that is more socially acceptable than alcohol consumption. It is time for our profession to encourage women to appreciate how small a percentage of one’s life is spent pregnant, how many more years there are to enjoy an occasional cocktail, and how very high the stakes are during this important period of their lives.”

Article, OBG Management, January 2013

Research

[Study finds missed opportunities for underage alcohol screening](#) “Physicians often fail to ask high school-aged patients about alcohol use and to advise young people to reduce or stop drinking, according to a study led by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), part of the National Institutes of Health.”

Article, Medical Xpress, February 2013

[Evaluation of Information and Support for Parents and Caretakers of Children with an FASD](#) FARE, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, evaluated a wide range of resources that aim to help parents and caretakers of people with FASD in Australia. The study showed that while foster caretakers are highly committed to the children in their care, they often felt that the complex needs of their children were not adequately supported, which was a significant contributing factor to their stress

and fatigue.

Events

[Webinar: Ethical Issues of FASDs](#) February 13, 2013. Time based on local time zone. FREE by the Frontier Regional FASD Training Center, funded by a grant from the CDC. “The webinar training will cover the intersection of biomedical ethics and practice with FASDs... Ethical issues related to FASDs will be identified, described and defined with special consideration towards patient/client confidentiality. The four basic principles of bio-medical ethics will be covered and discussed along with ethical frameworks and guidelines for decision making. Finally, a case study will be presented, which will provide the participants the opportunity to apply the ethical decision making process and informed decision making in health and social service settings.”

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National Organization on Fetal Alcohol
Syndrome (NOFAS)
1200 Eton Court, NW
Third Floor
Washington, DC 20007
Phone: 800-66NOFAS
www.nofas.org



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Questions? Contact: kachor@nofas.org

Editor: Andy Kachor, NOFAS Media Producer

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