

The Rare Disease Congressional Caucus

A group of people interested in topics related to rare disease

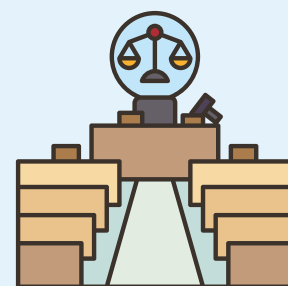
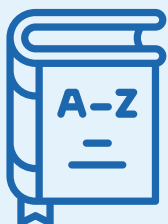


What is a caucus?

A caucus is a group of members of Congress who share an interest in a topic. People in a caucus work together to:

- Raise awareness about a problem
- Write bills to introduce in the Senate or the House of Representatives
- Vote for bills that will help their goal

There are hundreds of caucuses. A lot focus on diseases like cancer, diabetes, or rare diseases.



What does the Rare Disease Congressional Caucus do?

The Rare Disease Congressional Caucus focuses on rare diseases. People in this caucus:

- **Raise awareness** about rare diseases. They tell other people about rare diseases and problems that people in the rare disease community face.
- **Listen to ideas and problems** from the rare disease community.
- **Work together to support new ideas and programs:**
 - That help new medicines get invented for rare diseases
 - That make it possible for doctors to care for people with rare diseases
 - That make it possible for people with rare diseases to get the medicine and medical help they need

Congressional means something related to Congress. Congress is the part of our government made up of people called legislators who make laws. Legislators are also called members of Congress, Senators, or Representatives. Congress has 2 parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Ask your legislators to join the caucus!

If your legislators are not a part of the [Congressional Rare Disease Caucus](#), **you can ask them to join!** Share your story about your or your family member's rare disease. When they join, they can help share your story, raise awareness, and take action for you.

A **bill** is an idea for a law that will change the way government works.

If they're already a member of the caucus, thank them!

If your legislators are already a member of the Congressional Rare Disease Caucus, **thank them for their hard work!** Let them know you appreciate their work in helping the rare disease community.

