



**For Immediate Release**

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## ***The GINA Bill Passes the Senate*** **Discrimination Protection with regard to Genetic Testing**

*Bill Receives 95-0 Vote*

Salt Lake City, Utah—April 24, 2008—The Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SDAS) Foundation is proud to announce passage of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, or GINA. “This bill is a monumental achievement in health care legislation”, said Alice Lara, President and CEO of the SADS Foundation. “It will prevent much of the discrimination that may and can result from the knowledge of a person’s genetic information.”

GINA paves the way for the responsible use of genetic information while protecting against discrimination with respect to health insurance and employment. Sharon Terry, President and CEO of Genetic Alliance, and President of the Coalition for Genetic Fairness said today that “fears that genetic information could be misused hurts individuals, researchers, clinicians, and associated industries. Today, our fears have been addressed.”

The passage of GINA means three things for SADS families:

- Insurers may not base health care coverage or costs on genetic testing results
- Employers will not be able fire, refuse to hire, or otherwise discriminate against anyone because of your genetic testing results
- Patients are not required to disclose genetic testing results to insurers or employers

“SADS volunteers have worked very hard over many years to pass this bill. Now everyone—not only people with SADS conditions—will be protected from discrimination due to their genetic information.

For more information about the GINA Bill, please call the SADS Foundation at 800.STOP.SAD or go to our website [www.sads.org](http://www.sads.org).