BACKGROUND AND KEY MESSAGES:
In a year marked by partisanship, several members of Congress stood out as Champions and Defenders of Children, according to the 2018 Scorecard compiled by First Focus Campaign for Children, a national bipartisan children’s advocacy group.

“Even though child advocates had to fend off a whole range of legislative and regulatory attacks on children, we have identified 120 members of Congress who chose to make children a priority. We commend their leadership and hope they will inspire their colleagues to do the same,” said Bruce Lesley, President of the First Focus Campaign for Children.

The 2018 Scorecard includes key votes on health-related bills and amendments to tax legislation, including two House votes on the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), two Senate votes on child tax credit amendments, and four votes between the two chambers on the Affordable Care Act. Learn more and view the report at www.ffccscorecard.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND HASHTAG USE:
Use #Champions4Children to promote the information and lawmakers highlighted in the scorecard. Please find the full report at www.ffccscorecard.org and the First Focus Campaign for Children site (https://campaignforchildren.org/).

Also use the hashtag to thank your senators and representatives for their efforts as Champions and Defenders of Children.

IMAGE BANK
Images to help promote your posts are available in our image bank: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rb8t3hc2vIXxe594f/AADOga5QVm5L5eu8TUdmYjuka?dl=0

SAMPLE TWEETS
• In a year marked by partisanship, certain lawmakers put politics aside and prioritized children’s needs. @Campaign4Kids recognizes these Champions and Defenders of Children,
and the pro-kid legislation they supported, at http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs #Champions4Children

• In 2018, defending children from harmful policies was no easy feat. We commend these 40 senators and 80 representatives, who continued to prioritize kids through many political attacks on their needs: http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs #Champions4Children

• Poverty, abuse, hunger, education inequity, homelessness, lack of health coverage. All of these hardships afflict our nation’s children. But 120 lawmakers raised their voices for kids in 2018, and for that we commend them. http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs #Champions4Children

• These Champions and Defenders of Children spoke up for kids in 2018 by fighting for legislation that improved children’s lives and opposing legislation that would harm them. http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs #Champions4Children

• Far too often, lawmakers use kids’ needs as legislative bargaining chips. Our 2018 Champions and Defenders made kids’ issues front and center in the conversation. http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs #Champions4Children

PERSONALIZED TWEETS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

• Thank you [@lawmaker] for prioritizing children in 2018, a year in which children’s needs were continually used as a legislative bargaining chip. The @Campaign4Kids Congressional Scorecard named you a [Champion for/Defender of Children]! #Champions4Children http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs

• Kids far too often are an afterthought in Congress. But [@lawmaker] raised his/her voice for children’s issues in 2018. We at [@your organization] thank you for being a [Champion for/Defender of Children]. #Champions4Children

FIRST FOCUS RESOURCES

• Champions for Children website (Downloadable report): http://bit.ly/2O3ytfs