

May 15, 2024

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, and all Members of the House of Representatives:

The children's community writes to you today to ask that you help uplift our children in the halls of Congress. We know that offices share the sentiment that all children should live a safe, healthy, and happy life where they have the opportunity to succeed, and thank you for the support you have given so far to initiatives that seek to achieve that shared goal.

Unfortunately, we are currently failing kids. Recent years have shown declining outcomes in terms of mental health, infant mortality, food security, child poverty and more. Our children deserve better. We ask that you join in rededicating your attention and efforts to children through *Children's Week*.

Children's Week is an annual effort by the children's community to focus attention on children in national and political discourse. While children should be a unifying issue, they are often a political afterthought. Children's Week strives to rectify this and bring children to the front of the conversation.

Every year during the second full week of June, organizations highlight recent achievements for children and bring attention to areas where further progress is needed. We host events and briefings, work with members on progressing legislation, mobilize grassroots actions, and more. While these efforts occur year round, a dedicated week is essential to maintaining momentum and equally as important, is an opportunity to celebrate kids.

In Congress, Rep. Jacobs' resolution H.Res. 520 seeks to designate the second week of June Children's Week in the United States. *The undersigned children's groups ask for your endorsement of H.Res. 520.*

As you'll notice through the signees, the Children's community is composed of a wide array of groups. We are local, national, and international groups with varying focuses. The children's community is a big tent, as we believe that *every issue is a children's issue* and work alongside one another to better the lives of children. We invite you to join this community by co-sponsoring H.Res. 520 and participating in other *Children's Week* events.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the Children,

First Focus Campaign for Children
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Catholic Health Association of the United States

Children's Advocacy Institute
Coalition on Human Needs
Committee for Children
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Congressional Research Institute for Social Work Policy
Early Care & Education Consortium
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy, & Action
EDGE Consulting Partners
Family Centered Treatment Foundation
Family Promise
Family Voices
First Five Years Fund
HEAR US Inc.
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Leading for Kids
MomsRising
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Center for Youth Law
National Children's Campaign
National Diaper Bank Network
National League for Nursing
National Women's Law Center
Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Save the Children
School-Based Health Alliance
SocioEnergetics Foundation
Stand for Children, Inc.
Start Early
The Educare Network
World Vision
Youth Villages
ZERO TO THREE
National Federation of Families
Healthy Teen Network

State

Adoption Rhode Island
Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network, Inc
Epilepsy Alliance North Carolina
Goldsboro Pediatrics, PA
Jewish Family Service of San Diego

Karabelle Pizzigat Initiative in Advocacy for Children, Youth and Families at the University of Maryland
Long Valley Health Center
Meigs County General Health District
New Mexico Voices for Children
Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina
Prevent Blindness Georgia
Prevent Child Abuse Illinois
Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
San Diego for Every Child
The Children's Agenda
The National Society of Leadership & Success DeVry Southeast Chapter
Voices for Vermont's Children
West Chester Food Cupboard
Westville Community Nursery School, Inc.
Prevent Child Abuse California
The California Family Resource Association