

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY

VIA FAX

October 30, 2006

Hon. Arlen Specter
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Tom Harkin
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Ralph Regula
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. David Obey
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Specter, Ranking Member Harkin, Chairman Regula, and Ranking Member Obey:

The undersigned organizations appreciate and thank you for supporting the full and timely implementation of the National Children's Study. We applaud the Senate and House Appropriations Committees for recognizing the importance of the NCS. If this ground-breaking study is to begin implementation it must be fully funded in FY07. We are writing to respectfully request that you stipulate in the FY07 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (L-HHS-E) appropriations bill that \$69 million of the new funding provided to the National Institutes of Health, Office of the Director is to be used to fund the National Children's Study.

The National Children's Study is the largest and most comprehensive study of children's health and development ever planned in the United States. This study will follow a representative sample of 100,000 children from across the United States from before birth until age 21 examining the potential impacts of a broad range of environmental influences (physical, chemical, biological and social) in order to identify the root causes of many childhood diseases and conditions including preterm birth, asthma, obesity, heart disease, injury and diabetes.

Accordingly as the National Children's Study will make unique and significant contributions to the understanding of children's health we strongly urge you to include in the final L-HHS-E FY07 appropriations measure \$69 million in *new* funding to support implementation of the next steps. Thank you again for your continued support of child and adolescent health research.

Sincerely,

Organizations

Alliance for Healthy Homes
Ambulatory Pediatric Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association on Mental Retardation
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
American Diabetes Association
American Educational Research Association
American Heart Association
American Medical Association
American Medical Informatics Association
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Pediatric Surgical Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Sociological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Arthritis Foundation
Association of Pediatric Oncology Social Workers
Association of Population Centers
Association of SIDS and Infant Mortality Programs
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Autism Speaks
BCCNS Life Support Network
CARES Foundation
Center for Children's Health and the Environment, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Children's Memorial Research Center
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Delivery of Chronic Care
Easter Seals
Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation

Family Voices
First Candle
FRAXA Research Foundation
Genetic Alliance
Genetic Alliance Biobank
Grassroots Environmental Education
Hadassah
Healthy Schools Network, Inc.
Hunter's Hope Foundation
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
Immune Deficiency Foundation
Institute for Children's Environmental Health
Jeffery Modell Foundation
Jewish Genetic Disease Consortium
Klinefelter Syndrome & Associates
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Learning Disabilities Association of California
Marin Golden Gate Learning Disabilities Association
March of Dimes
MHE Research Foundation
NARAL Pro-Choice America
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association of Social Workers
National Eczema Society
National Fragile X Foundation
National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition
National Marfan Foundation
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Society of Genetic Counselors
National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association
National Vitiligo Foundation
NJ Environmental Federation
Northern Nevada Genetic Counseling
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Pachyonychia Congenita Project
Parents for Nontoxic Alternatives
Population Association of America
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA)
Praxis Project
Progeria Research Foundation, Inc.
PXE International
Reproductive Health Technologies Project
Sarah Lawrence College
Saratoga Foundation for Women WorldWide, Inc.
Shaping America's Health

Society for Adolescent Medicine
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for the Study of Reproduction
Society for Women's Health Research
Spina Bifida Association
Spina Bifida Foundation
Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation
The Arc of the United States
United Cerebral Palsy
VHL Family Alliance

Individuals

Amy Brower, PhD

Dr. Vandana Desai, Professor of Pediatrics, SMIMER

Siobhan Dolan, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Women's Health, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P., Director, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District

Rita Nabor, RN

Frederick W. Telling, Vice President-Corporate Policy and Strategic Management, Pfizer Inc

Judith M Tuerck RN MS, Child Development & Rehabilitation Center, Oregon Health & Science University

Maryla Wade, Environmental Health Communications, Berkeley, CA

Cc: Senate Majority Leader Frist

Cc: Senate Minority Leader Reid

Cc: Speaker of the House Hastert

Cc: House Minority Leader Pelosi

Cc: Senate and House Appropriations Committees