

April 26, 2011

The Honorable Dennis Rehberg  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rehberg and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As organizations that care deeply about the health and safety of our nation's children, we would like to urge you to provide \$27,562,500 for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program in the Health Resources and Services Administration for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

For the past 25 years, the EMSC program has made landmark improvements to the emergency care delivered to our children all across the nation. As the only federal program dedicated to improving emergency care for children, EMSC has brought vital attention and resources to an otherwise neglected population. Every state has received EMSC funds, which they have used to ensure that hospitals and ambulances are properly equipped to treat pediatric emergencies, to provide pediatric training to paramedics and first responders, and to improve the systems that allow for efficient, effective pediatric emergency medical care. It is no coincidence that since the EMSC program was established, death rates due to pediatric injury have dropped by 40 percent.

We are enormously grateful that in FY 2010 the EMSC received its first funding increase in almost a decade, bringing funding to \$21.5 million. This additional funding has allowed the program to maintain and improve its activities, take advantage of important opportunities, and address emerging threats to child health. EMSC was recently reauthorized through 2014 as part of the *Affordable Care Act*. This legislation authorized \$27,562,500 for EMSC in FY 2012. We urge you to increase the EMSC program's funding to the authorized level to ensure the program's continued success.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you to improve emergency medical services for children across our nation.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American College of Osteopathic  
Emergency Physicians  
American College of Surgeons  
Children's Health Fund  
Children's Healthcare Is a Legal Duty  
Emergency Nurses Association

First Candle  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Michigan State University/Kalamazoo  
Center for Medical Studies  
National Association of State EMS Officials  
Safe Kids USA  
Save the Children