

March 11, 2016

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education & Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education & Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

As organizations that care deeply about the health and safety of our nation's children, we write to request that you provide \$20,213,000 in funding for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program at the Health Resources and Services Administration in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Labor, HHS, Education (LHHS) appropriations bill.

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. Additionally, EMSC funding has helped to improve pediatric capacity and transport of pediatric patients and address emerging issues such as pediatric emergency care readiness and pediatric emergency medical services in rural and remote areas.

We are aware of the tough choices appropriators face in the current fiscal environment, and appreciate continued funding of the program. As you prepare the FY 17 LHHS appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you fund the EMSC program at its authorized level of \$20,213,000.

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 Ambulance Association  
American National Red Cross  
American Pediatric Association  
American Pediatric Society  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Child Care Aware of America  
Children's Health Fund  
Children's Hospital Association  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Emergency Nurses Association

Family Voices

March of Dimes

National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of State EMS Officials

Pediatric Policy Council

Phoenix Children's Hospital

Society for Pediatric Research