

## **Support the Pediatric Research Consortia Act**

The **Pediatric Research Establishment Consortia Act of 2009** (S.353/H.R.758) was introduced in the Senate by Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Kit Bond (R-MO) and in the House by Representatives Diane DeGette (D-CO) and Peter King (R-NY). This bipartisan legislation would create a national system of pediatric research, treatments and cures for childhood diseases.

This legislation is supported by leading pediatric medical research institutions, the Public Policy Council, American Academy of Pediatrics and other pediatric research societies. There is a significant need for a new method for expanding pediatric medical research. There have been significant funding challenges in the research field which has discouraged many young investigators from entering the profession, putting children's health at risk.

### **WHAT THE BILL DOES**

- Amends Title IV of the Public Health Service Act to authorize NIH to establish up to 20 pediatric research consortia.
- Each consortium would be funded by a five year grant of up to \$2.5 million per year.
- Each consortium will be a network of several institutions with one leading pediatric medical center as the hub that will reach out to children's hospitals and health establishments to conduct basic and translational pediatric research.
- Increases NIH resources allocated.
- Creates a broader range for recruiting patients for clinical trials.
- Form a collaboration and sharing of results between the consortia participants.
- Raises the focus of pediatric research.
- Establishes communication among the U.S pediatric research community.

### **ADVOCACY ACTION REQUESTED**

Urge your members of Congress to support and co-sponsor the Pediatric Research Consortia Act of 2009 (S. 353 / H.R. 758).

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