

May 6, 2024

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education & Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education & Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education & Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Ranking Member Capito, Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As organizations that care deeply about the health and safety of our nation's children, we write to request that you provide \$24.334 million in funding for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Labor, HHS, Education (LHHS) appropriations bill.

The EMSC program has made landmark improvements to the emergency care delivered to 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. EMSC has bipartisan, bicameral support for another five-year reauthorization at this amount—the most recently appropriated level—via the *Emergency Medical Services for Children Program Reauthorization Act of 2024* (H.R. 6960, S. 3765). This level of funding allows states to address gaps in children's access to high quality emergency and trauma care.

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 through the National Pediatric Readiness Project and pediatric emergency medical services in rural and remote areas.

Initiated in 2016, the EMSC Innovation and Improvement Center (EIIC) is working to accelerate improvements in the quality of care and outcomes for children who are in need of urgent or emergency care through an infrastructure that ensures routine, integrated coordination of quality improvement activities. The EIIC was invaluable during the surge in pediatric respiratory illnesses seen in late 2022 that strained healthcare facilities, staff, and resources across the U.S. EIIC created recommendations and resources to support the immediate response to the surge of pediatric patients and to guide planning and preparation for future surges.

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 2025 LHHS appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you fund the EMSC program at \$24.334 million—level funding from FY 2024 and the amount requested in the President’s FY 2025 Budget.

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

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Ambulance Association  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Surgeons  
American Pediatric Society  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin  
Children’s Hospital Association  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Children’s Minnesota  
Children’s National Hospital  
Children’s Wisconsin  
Cincinnati Children’s  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Family Voices  
March of Dimes  
National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians  
National Association of EMS Physicians  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials  
National League for Nursing  
Nemours Children’s Health  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Society for Pediatric Research  
The Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health  
The Paramedic Foundation  
Texas Children’s Hospital  
University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's