

April 9, 2025

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

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
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 Capito, Ranking Member Baldwin, 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) 2027 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 and was recently reauthorized 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 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 2027 LHHS appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you fund the EMSC program at \$24.334 million—level funding from FY 2026.

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
Advocate Health
Advocate Health - Carolinas Medical Center Wake Forest Baptist
Advocate Health Carolinas Medical Center
Advocate Health Union Hospital Levine Children's Emergency Department
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Ambulance Association
American Board of Emergency Medicine
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Surgeons
American Paramedic Association
American Pediatric Society
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Asociación de Hospitales de P.R.
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Atrium Health
Atrium Health Children's Emergency Department - Union
Barton Dunant
Benton County Public Health Department
Blythedale Children's Hospital
BorderRAC
Boston Children's Hospital Division of Emergency Medicine
Bridgeport Hospital
Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad
Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital
Carilion Clinic
Carla P. Cangemi, MD
Carolinas Medical Center
CentraCare EMS
Children's Emergency Care Alliance of Tennessee
Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Hospital Colorado
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Children's Minnesota
Children's Wisconsin
Connecticut Emergency Nurses Association
Emergency Nurses Association
First Focus Campaign for Children
Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children Family Advisory Network Representative
Florida Neonatal Pediatric Transport Network Association
Helen C Miller MD PC
International Association of Emergency Managers
Levine Children's Emergency Department
Maimonides Medical Center
National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
National Association of EMS Physicians
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National League for Nursing
National Pediatric Disaster Coalition Inc.
Nemours Children's Health
New York City Pediatric Disaster Coalition
Northwell Health
NYC Pediatric Disaster Coalition
NYP
NYU Langone Health
Pathfinder Consulting and Education
Pediatric Medical LLC
Phoenix Children's
Pitch Parlor Public Relations
Plains to Peaks RETAC
R Baby Foundation, Inc.
Rural Health Association of Tennessee
Sociedad Puertorriqueña Cuidado Critico
Texas Children's Hospital
The Lundquist Institute
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The Paramedic Foundation
University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's
University of Miami- Miller School of Medicine /Jackson Children's /Jackson Health System
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Rochester
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
UW Health Kids
Wellspring Counseling and Education, PLLC
Wilton Emergency Squad Inc.
Wisconsin EMS Association
Yale New Haven Children's Hospital
Yale University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics
Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital