

# How Your Members' Votes Affect Children

## Key Senate 2008 Children's Votes

### ■ Tax Credits to Stimulate the Economy

H.R. 5140, Sen. Roll Call Vote 10; Passed 81–16

This bill provided tax credits to low- and middle-income families who were expected to spend the money quickly to meet their basic needs and stimulate the economy.

### ■ Extended Unemployment Benefits

H.R. 6867, Sen. Roll Call Vote 214; Motion agreed to 89–6

This bill extended unemployment benefits to help families better meet their needs while seeking work.

### ■ 2009 Budget Resolution

S. Con. Res. 70, Conference Report, Sen. Roll Call Vote 142;

Adopted 48–45

The Budget Resolution included important funding priorities for children and rejected proposed cuts by President Bush that would have hurt families and children.

### ■ Health Coverage for Pregnant Women

Amendment to the FY 2009 Budget Resolution, S. Con. Res. 70, Sen. Roll Call Vote 80; Adopted 70–27

This amendment increased the likelihood that low-income pregnant women would have health coverage under SCHIP, which is critical to providing children a healthy start in life.

### ■ Health and Energy Assistance Funding

Amendment to the FY 2009 Budget Resolution, S. Con. Res. 70, Sen. Roll Call Vote 53; Adopted 95–4

This amendment increased the likelihood that low-income children and families could benefit from help with heating, cooling and related energy costs and also increased funding for medical research.

### ■ Moratorium on Harmful Medicaid Regulations

Supplemental Appropriations – Motion to Concur, H.R. 2642, Sen. Roll Call Vote 137; Agreed to 75–22

This amendment placed a moratorium on harmful Medicaid regulations proposed by the Bush Administration that would have seriously jeopardized access to health and mental health care for various groups of vulnerable children and adults.

### ■ Support for Mental Health Benefits/Tax Provisions Extensions

H.R. 6049, Sen. Roll Call Vote 204; Agreed to 84–11

This amendment made it possible for the Senate to vote to eliminate discrimination in the coverage of mental health treatment for children and adults.

### ■ Increases in Funding for Food Stamps and Other Nutrition Programs

H.R. 6124, Sen. Roll Call Vote 144; Passed 77–15

This bill helped children and families by increasing investments in food stamps and other nutrition programs to help offset rising food costs.

### ■ Tighter Safety Standards

H.R. 4040, Conference Report, Sen. Roll Call Vote 193; Passed 89–3

This bill protected children from unsafe toys by strengthening safety regulations and monitoring mechanisms.

### ■ Help for Youth to Pay for College

H.R. 4137, Conference Report, Sen. Roll Call Vote 194; Passed 83–8

This bill made it easier for more young people, including youths with special needs, to get the financial support necessary to afford a college education.

## Key House of Representatives 2008 Children's Votes

### ■ 2009 Budget Resolution

S. Con. Res. 70, Conference Report, House Roll Call Vote 382; Adopted 214–210

The Budget Resolution included important funding priorities for children and rejected proposed cuts by President Bush that would have hurt families and children.

### ■ Extended Unemployment Benefits

H.R. 6867, House Roll Call Vote 683; Passed 368–28

This bill extended unemployment benefits to help families better meet their needs while seeking work.

### ■ Increases in Funding for Food Stamps and Other Nutrition Programs

H.R. 6124, House Roll Call Vote 353; Passed 306–110

This bill helped children and families by increasing investments in food stamps and other nutrition programs to help offset rising food costs.

### ■ Moratorium on Harmful Medicaid Regulations

H.R. 5613, House Roll Call Vote 209; Passed 349–62

This amendment placed a moratorium on harmful Medicaid regulations proposed by the Bush Administration that would have seriously jeopardized access to health and mental health care for various groups of vulnerable children and adults.

### ■ Parity for Mental Health Benefits

H.R. 6983, House Roll Call Vote 625; Passed 376–47

This bill eliminated discrimination in the coverage of mental health treatment for children and adults.

### ■ Equal Treatment for Mental Health Patients

H.R. 1424, House Roll Call Vote 101; Passed 268–148

This bill expanded health insurance coverage of mental health conditions and ended discrimination in the coverage of mental health treatment for children and adults.

### ■ Paid Leave for Parents

H.R. 5781, House Roll Call Vote 428; Passed 278–146

This bill provides four weeks of paid parental leave for federal employees to allow them to stay at home with a newborn child or newly adopted children without having to worry about losing pay or losing their job.

### ■ Tighter Safety Standards

H.R. 4040, Conference Report, House Roll Call Vote 543; Passed 424–1

This bill was a vote to protect children from unsafe toys by strengthening safety regulations and monitoring mechanisms.

### ■ Help for Youth to Pay for College

H.R. 4137, Conference Report, House Roll Call Vote 544; Passed 380–49

This bill made it easier for more young people, including youths with special needs, to get the financial support necessary to afford a college education.

### ■ Protection for Youths in Residential Programs

H.R. 6358, House Roll Call Vote 459; Passed 318–103

This bill protects youths in private residential treatment programs from abuse and neglect by requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to enforce health and safety standards for children in such programs and requiring staff to notify parents when their children's treatment changes or abuses occur.