

Making the Cut? Kids Safety on a Fiscal Cliff

IMPORTANT CHILD SAFETY PROGRAMS COULD BE REDUCED BY \$4.6 BILLION

SPORTS HEAD INJURIES

COST: \$15.1 million in cuts to the CDC Injury Center could reduce or eliminate concussion education for coaches.

IMPACT: Each year, 173,285 kids visit the ER for traumatic brain injuries from sports, including concussions. The average cost for a child hospitalized for a traumatic brain injury is \$40,000.

POISON (UN)CONTROL

COST: \$2.07 million in cuts to U.S. poison control centers after consecutive years of federal cuts would be disastrous for kids.

IMPACT: Poison control centers save more than \$1.8 billion every year. \$1 federal dollar spent saves \$38.74 in health care costs. Close to 90 percent of calls involving kids five and under are resolved by phone.

MORE UNSAFE TOYS

COST: \$12.65 million in cuts to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) could severely limit U.S. efforts to evaluate products, issue recalls, and stop unsafe items from entering the country.

IMPACT: In 2012, the CPSC and CPB have seized 2 million units of products. It has been estimated that 84% are for kids. Sequestration could mean 1,680,000 more units of dangerous kids products in stores.

KEEPING CAR SEATS SAFE

COST: \$15.4 million in cuts to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) could reduce efforts in kids car safety, ultimately endangering kids in cars. Car crashes are the highest cause of childhood injury and death.

IMPACT: Every dollar spent on a booster seat saves society \$42 dollars. 99 percent of newborns leave hospitals in car seats.

LEAD EXPOSURE UP, FEDERAL ROLE DOWN

COST: Federal programs to protect kids from lead exposure face \$13.2 million in cuts – after already being slashed by \$16 million in previous years. Experts raised the threshold risk for lead intake for children, increasing exposure by 200,000.

IMPACT: The risk of failing to graduate from high school increases by 4.5% for every point of IQ lost to childhood lead exposure. There's an estimated reduction of earnings of \$9,600 for every IQ point lost.



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