

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Join the Bipartisan Congressional Kids' Safety Caucus

Accidental injury is the number one cause of death for kids in the United States

Dear Colleague:

As founding members of the new Congressional Kids' Safety Caucus, we invite you to join us in the effort to prevent unintentional injury to kids. This bipartisan caucus provides a forum for Members to engage in education and awareness activities that help promote best practices for keeping children safe.

Over the last decade, there have been some encouraging signs that the United States is making progress in keeping our kids safe. For example, child-injury death rates have decreased 29 percent in the last decade. However, preventable injury remains the leading cause of death for children in the United States. As parents and policy makers, we must remain vigilant in our mission to protect the safety of our nation's children.

The first step is awareness. Here are just a few examples of child-safety issues affecting kids today:

- More than 2.6 million children ages 19 and under were seen in emergency rooms for injuries related to sports and recreation
- Teens ages 15 to 19 years old made up 75 percent of car crash fatalities in 2011
- Half of the 2 million calls to poison-control centers in 2011 were for children ages 5 and under
- 47 percent of children who died from fires or burns were ages 4 and under

The Congressional Kids' Safety Caucus will serve as an educational resource for Members and staff on issues and research relating to child safety and ways to prevent injury in kids ages 19 and under. The caucus can help provide information as well as models of successful programs Members can bring back to their districts to help inform parents and caregivers on how to keep the next generation safe. Because these injuries are preventable, we believe we can continue the progress made in reducing childhood injury and keeping kids safe.

We hope you will join us in this important effort. If you have any questions or would like to join the caucus, please contact seth.extein@mail.house.gov (Ms. Wasserman Schultz), nicole.bredahl@mail.house.gov (Mr. Cramer), rachana.shah@mail.house.gov (Ms. Meng), or rachel.provost@mail.house.gov (Mr. Runyan).

Sincerely,



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Jon Runyan
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Grace Meng
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Kevin Cramer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS