

# **SUPPORT THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY**

October XX, 2006

Dear XX:

The undersigned organizations appreciate and thank you for supporting the full and timely implementation of the National Children's Study (NCS). We applaud the Senate and House Appropriations Committees for recognizing the importance of the NCS. If this ground-breaking study is to begin implementation it must be fully funded in FY07. We are writing to request that you stipulate in the FY07 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (L-HHS-E) appropriations bill that \$69 million of the new funding provided to the National Institutes of Health, Office of the Director is to be used to fund the NCS.

The National Children's Study is the largest and most comprehensive study of children's health and development ever planned in the United States. This study will follow a representative sample of 100,000 children from their mother's pregnancy to adulthood examining the potential impacts of a broad range of environmental influences (physical, chemical, biological and social) in order to identify the root causes of many childhood diseases and conditions including preterm birth, asthma, obesity, injury and diabetes.

Accordingly as the National Children's Study will make unique and significant contributions to the understanding of children's health we strongly urge you to include \$69 million in *new* funding to support implementation of the next steps. Thank you again for your continued support of child and adolescent health research.

Sincerely,

Ambulatory Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Pediatric Society  
March of Dimes  
Society for Adolescent Medicine  
Society for Pediatric Research