

**A Vote for School-Based Health Care is a Vote for a Healthier America**

Every child in America deserves an equal opportunity to be healthy and to succeed in school. Too many school children today experience the harmful effects of poor nutrition, violence, tobacco and substance use and chronic diseases – all of which affect learning performance – AND are 100% preventable if identified and treated early.

To protect the health, safety and well being of children and to promote their educational success, many communities across this country are providing quality medical and counseling services where children grow and learn: their schools.

School-based health centers have a proven track record for improving children's access to health care, especially to students who are the most vulnerable and least likely to obtain care through a traditional health care delivery system. School-based health centers partner with parents in the health education and health supervision of their child, as well as with the school to address all barriers to learning.

We the undersigned support school-based health centers as an important strategy for improving children's healthy development and enhancing the learning experience. School-based health centers do not receive the acknowledgement and funding from the federal government necessary to sustain this critical model of health care.

We call on the U.S. Congress to support the proposed ***School Health Clinic Establishment Act*** and other federal policies that assure compensation for services provided to publicly insured patients.

American College Health Assn  
American College of OB&GYN  
American Counseling Assn  
American Public Health Assn  
American School Health Assn  
Assn of Maternal and Child Health  
Programs  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation  
Center for Health and Health Care in  
Schools  
Child Welfare League of America  
Children's Defense Fund  
Coalition for Community Schools  
Communities in Schools  
Families USA  
First Focus  
Healthy Teen Network  
National Business Group on Health  
Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness

Nat'l Assn of Chronic Disease Directors  
Nat'l Assn of Community Health Centers  
Nat'l Assn of County & City Health  
Officials  
Nat'l Assn of Pediatric Nurse  
Practitioners (NAPNAP)  
Nat'l Assn of Pupil Services Admin  
Nat'l Assn of School Nurses  
Nat'l Assn of School Psychologists  
Nat'l Assn of State Directors of Special  
Education  
Nat'l Network of State Adolescent  
Health Coordinators  
School Social Work Assn of America  
Society for Adolescent Medicine  
The Children's Health Fund