

# For Mother's Day, Join Us to End Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths and Co-sponsor H.R. 3706, the Reach Every Mother and Child Act of 2015

Dear Colleague,

As we celebrate Mother's Day, we're reminded of the importance of maternal and child health for families around the world. Unfortunately too many mothers and children do not have access to the critical health services that can prevent severe illness, disability, or even death. This need not be the case.



This short video by the Yale Department of Visual Epidemiology provides a powerful account of what it takes for a mother “To Keep a Promise” to her child to grow up healthy and meet her full potential. In light of this video, we invite you join us in co-sponsoring the *Reach Every Mother and Child Act* (H.R. 3706), legislation that aims end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths across the globe.

**H.R. 3706 currently has 130 Co-sponsors:** Reichert (WA), McCollum (MN), McCaul (TX), Lee (CA), Adams (NC), Aodei (NV), Ashford (NE), Barton (TX), Bass (CA), Beatty (OH), Bera (CA), Beyer (VA), Bishop (MI), Bishop (UT), Blumenauer (OR), Bonamici (OR), Brooks (IN), Capuano (MA), Carson (IN), Castor (FL), Chabot (OH), Cicilline (RI), Clarke (NY), Coffman (CO), Cohen (TN), Cook (CA), Costello (PA), Crenshaw (FL), Curbelo (FL), Danny K. Davis (IL), Rodney Davis (IL), Davis (CA), DeGette (CO), DeLauro (CT), DelBene (WA), Dent (PA), DesJarlais (TN), Doggett (TX), Dold (IL), Donovan (NY), Ellison (MN), Emmer (MN), Eshoo (CA), Esty (CT), Farr (CA), Fitzpatrick (PA), Gibson (NY), Hanna (NY), Heck (WA), Huffman (CA), Hultgren (IL), Israel (NY), Jenkins (KS), Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX), Jolly (FL), Joyce (OH), Kaptur (OH), Kilmer (WA), Kinzinger (IL), Kirkpatrick (AZ), Kuster (NH), LaHood (IL), Lance (NJ), Langevin (RI), Larsen (WA), Lewis (GA), Lieu (CA), Lofgren (CA), Long (MO), Love (UT), Lowenthal (CA), Lujan Grisham (NM), Lujan (NM), MacArthur (NJ), Marino (PA), McDermott (WA), McGovern (MA), McHenry (NC), McMorris Rodgers (WA), Meeks (NY), Messer (IN), Moore (WI), Mullin (OK), Nadler (NY), Newhouse (WA), Norcross (NJ), Norton (DC), Peters (CA), Pingree (ME), Pittenger (NC), Pocan (WI), Polis (CO), Quigley (IL), Rangel (NY), Ribble (WI), Ross (FL), Ruppersberger (MD), Ryan (OH), Schakowsky (IL), Schiff (CA), Schrader (OR), Sensenbrenner (WI), Serrano (NY), Sessions (TX), Sherman (CA), Sires (NJ), Smith (WA), Smith (TX), Speier (CA),

*Stewart (UT), Stivers (OH), Swalwell (CA), Titus (NV), Trott (MI), Tsongas (MA), Van Hollen (MD), Veasey (TX), Wagner, (MO), Walberg (MI), Wasserman Schultz (FL), Watson Coleman (NJ), Welch (VT), Westmoreland (GA), Williams (TX), Wilson (FL), Womack (AR), Woodall (GA), Young (IA), Young (AK), Zinke (MT)*

Since 1990, the world has reduced under-five child mortality by half and for mothers by 40 percent. These are some of the greatest successes in international development. Yet, every year 5.9 million children under the age of five still die from preventable or treatable causes. Every day, approximately 800 women - almost entirely from developing countries - will die from preventable causes. Twenty million more women will experience debilitating, sometimes lifelong complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. Investing in women and children reduces poverty; stimulates economic growth; increases our national security by providing hope, building country capacity; and most importantly, it saves lives.

This legislation calls for a comprehensive strategy to reduce maternal, newborn, and child deaths in a generation. It accelerates progress on maternal and child survival by using proven, evidence-based, and cost-effective interventions; sets clear benchmarks for success; instructs USAID to name a coordinator responsible for meeting goals – this is not a new position but rather must be a current employee; focuses on countries and regions with the greatest need; and creates new and innovative financing mechanisms allowing public and private sector investment to fund these efforts. This bill would also help accelerate partner country progress toward self-sustainability for maternal and child survival.

The U.S. government has a strong bipartisan legacy of leadership on maternal, newborn, and child health. With the lessons we have learned and the evidence in hand, we can see the road ahead. **This Mother's Day - it is the time to accelerate our efforts and Reach Every Mother and Child with life-saving programs. Co-sponsor H.R. 3706, the Reach Every Mother and Child Act of 2015.**

For more information please contact [Colin.Swanson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Colin.Swanson@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Reichert's office or [Jenn.McCollum@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jenn.McCollum@mail.house.gov) in Rep. McCollum's office, [M.A.Keifer@mail.house.gov](mailto:M.A.Keifer@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Lee's office, or [Brandon.Batch@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brandon.Batch@mail.house.gov) in Rep. McCaul's office. We thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you to pass this transformative legislation.

Sincerely,

Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress