

Dear Members of Congress,

Every life is precious. Yet today, 16,000 children and 800 mothers will die. They will die from a lack of proper nutrition, from lack of access to skilled delivery during childbirth, from a lack of clean water and from a lack of knowledge on how to time and space pregnancies. Sadly, they will die primarily from causes that are fully treatable and preventable.

As organizations who value life and are committed to saving and improving the lives of mothers and children around the world, we therefore ask for your support of S. 1911 and H.R. 3706, the Reach Every Mother and Child Act, introduced by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Chris Coons (D-DE), and introduced by Representatives Dave Reichert (R-WA), Betty McCollum (D-MN), Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Michael McCaul (R-TX). This legislation aims to accelerate U.S. efforts, in partnership with country governments and the private sector, to end preventable maternal and child deaths by the year 2035.

Specifically, the bill would:

- Coordinate a U.S. government strategy to end preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths and help ensure healthy lives by 2035;
- Require ambitious top line targets to be set, tracked and annually reported on;
- Focus on the poorest and most vulnerable populations, recognizing the unique needs within different countries and communities;
- Improve coordination among the U.S. government agencies and relevant foreign governments and international organizations;
- Complement strong US bilateral investments with innovative, public-private financing mechanisms; and
- Accelerate partner country progress toward self-sustainability for maternal, newborn and child health.

The United States has led the way in improving the lives of mothers and children and building the capacity of countries to care for themselves and ensure they reach their full potential. Through these efforts, we have seen tremendous progress, but our work remains unfinished and our faith calls us to continue until we reach every mother and child.

We hope you will join us in supporting the Reach Every Mother and Child Act by cosponsoring this important legislation.

We thank you for your consideration,



