

Reps. Matsui, Smith Announce the Launch of the Congressional Childrens Study Working Group

WASHINGTON, D.C. Today, Reps. Doris Matsui (CA-05) and Christopher Smith (NJ-04) announced the launch of the Congressional Childrens Study Working Group. The Working Group will advocate for the National Childrens Study (NCS) in Congress.

The Congressional Childrens Study Working Group will work to keep Members updated on the status, needs, and successes of the National Childrens Study. The NCS was created by Congress in the Childrens Health Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-310), and it is the nations largest longitudinal study of childrens health. This unique health study deserves consistent support from Congress, and the Congressional Childrens Study Working Group will be the vehicle to raise awareness of the NCS, advocate for its success, and promote its accomplishments on Capitol Hill.

The Childrens Study is a wonderful tool to understand childrens health challenges. Making investments now will ensure that our kids grow up healthy. By establishing the Working Group, we will be able to keep other Members informed on the study and emerging trends, said Rep. Matsui.

There has been a recent increase in childhood health afflictions, including autism, asthma, and diabetes. The Study will seek to analyze how environmental factors impact childrens health, and is the first long-term study to address this issue. It will examine important issues and seeks to identify the root causes of many childhood and adult diseases. The overall goal of the Study is to improve the health and well-being of American children.

Good policy flows from good and accurate data and in 2000 we created the National Childrens Study as a first critical step towards identifying, promoting and implementing reforms needed to improve the health and well being of Americas children. Our bipartisan Childrens Study Working Group will focus attention and amplify the findings and recommendations of the National Childrens Study so that policy changes are made and our children are better protected from dangerous environmental and health risks, said Rep. Smith.

There has been an alarming trend of diseases and conditions affecting our nations youth in recent years. By investing in research now, we can help to make sure that the next generation of American kids grows up healthier than the last, said Matsui.

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