



For Immediate Release  
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## **Home Visiting Coalition Thanks Congress for Bipartisan Enactment of Jackie Walorski Home Visiting Reauthorization**

*National organizations praise Congress and legislative champions for bipartisan action on behalf of women and children in need*

*Enactment of Omnibus ensures home visiting services continue and expand*

WASHINGTON – The Home Visiting Coalition steering committee, comprised of more than a dozen national organizations committed to the well-being of children and families, today issued the following statement regarding House and Senate passage of the Omnibus year-end spending package, which included a bipartisan five-year reauthorization and expansion of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program:

“The Home Visiting Coalition is so grateful to our legislative champions, Congressional negotiators, and all lawmakers who have supported reauthorization and expansion of home visiting services. Enactment of this year-end package will ensure services continue – and are improved – for so many women and children in need.

“MIECHV-funded home visiting services are truly the gold standard in evidence-based policymaking. Investing in home visiting pays massive dividends through improvements in prenatal and post-partum physical and psychological health, and healthy infant and child development. We know that home visiting works because we see the results every day.

“For the first time since this program’s creation, Congress has taken the significant step of doubling federal funding for MIECHV over the next five years. These investments will mean that many more families benefit from the proven impact of evidence-based home visiting.

“We would like to especially think Reps. Danny Davis (D-IL), Brad Wenstrup (R-OH), Richard Neal (D-MA), and Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Sens. Ron Wyden (D-OR), Mike Crapo

(R-ID), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), and Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and their staffs for their tireless work to ensure this reauthorization crossed the finish line with critical policy improvements and increased funding. Completing this reauthorization is a meaningful tribute to the late Rep. Walorski and her determined and unflagging efforts on behalf of women and children in need.”

**Background:**

MIECHV-funded home visiting supports evidence-based interventions to improve maternal and infant health; creates connections between caregivers, the pediatric medical home, and other health practitioners in the community; and provides screening for perinatal depression and connects parents with appropriate community-based behavioral health care. Home visits support families in their child’s early development and learning; ensures referrals when certain risk factors, including trauma or domestic violence, are present in the home; provides resources for children who experience trauma and toxic stress; and helps families navigate complex community-based systems of supports.

The Omnibus Appropriations Act includes the *Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Reauthorization (H.R. 8876)*, which passed the House of Representatives on December 2<sup>nd</sup> with a bipartisan vote of 390-26 and the Home Visiting Coalition was proud to endorse. Named in honor of the late U.S. House Ways and Means Worker and Family Support Subcommittee Ranking Member Jackie Walorski (R-IN), a longstanding champion of MIECHV, the bill’s overwhelming passage and inclusion in the Omnibus demonstrates the breadth of its support across geographic regions and the political spectrum. The five-year reauthorization will expand the program, providing significant additional resources to tribal communities, and allowing for the continuation of virtual home visiting.

**The Home Visiting Coalition steering committee is comprised of:**

- Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Child First
- First 5 California/First 5 LA/First 5 Association of California
- First Five Years Fund
- First Focus on Children
- Campaign for Children
- Healthy Families America
- Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers
- Prevent Child Abuse America
- Start Early
- ZERO TO THREE

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