



CAC2

COALITION AGAINST
CHILDHOOD CANCER

PO Box 41913
Philadelphia, PA 19101

cac2.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2025

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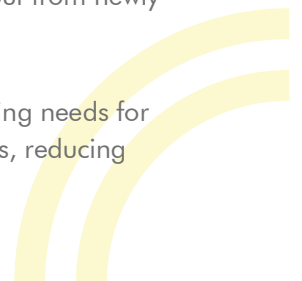
The undersigned childhood cancer organizations are members of the Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (CAC2), whose members care deeply about all aspects of childhood cancer. Like our colleagues in many other organizations that support children and teens with cancer, we are deeply disappointed that Congress left kids with cancer behind in its end-of-year package. Congress had the opportunity to pass the most influential childhood cancer legislation in a decade – but instead, it cut out five critical bipartisan policies that would have benefited childhood cancer patients and their families.

Childhood Cancer is the #1 disease related killer of kids and teenagers in the U.S. One in five children diagnosed with cancer will die within five years of diagnosis. Since, on average, Americans live into their 70s, when children die of cancer, their families experience a full 70 years of expected life lost. Furthermore, one in 285 American children will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20, representing over 17,000 children. More than 95% of childhood cancer survivors will have significant health-related issues by the time they are 45 years of age. These health-related issues are side-effects of their cancer or, more commonly, the result of their treatment regimen.

The cuts made near the end of the legislative session include:

- The Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act, which cuts bureaucratic red tape that keeps kids from accessing time-sensitive care across state lines;
- The Creating Hope Reauthorization Act, which incentivizes critical pediatric research, but whose funding has expired due to congressional inaction;
- The Innovation in Pediatric Drugs Act, to ensure pediatric studies for possible new treatments are completed on time—and brings us closer to cures;
- Give Kids A Chance Act, which allows researchers to study combinations of new cancer drugs, potentially unlocking new cures for kids; and
- The RARE Act, which clarifies Congress' interpretation of the Orphan Drug Act to ensure pediatric drug research and development isn't locked out from newly approved drugs that don't impact pediatric populations.

Together, these policies would have addressed some of the most pressing needs for children with cancer and their families: funding vital research programs, reducing





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bureaucratic delays to improve access to specialty care and clinical trials, and ensuring children with untreatable cancer have access to new life-saving cures.

We are disheartened that Congress eliminated this potential progress from their package – and with it, the hope that it represented for children with cancer. **We request that when the 119th Congress is seated and the new session convenes on Jan. 3, 2025, children with cancer must be the first order of business. Children with cancer have waited long enough—it's time to finish the job.**

The Coalition Against Childhood Cancer welcomes the opportunity to discuss the unique challenges of childhood cancer and legislation to help mitigate those challenges. We look forward to working with our Members of Congress to ensure our priorities are addressed as early in the new Session as possible. Should questions or requests for additional information arise, please contact Angela Lee, National Advocacy Lead at CAC2 (advocacy@cac2.org) or Vickie Buenger, President Emeritus at CAC2 (presidentemeritus@cac2.org).

The following organizations endorse this statement:

Coalition Against Childhood Cancer
A Moment of Magic
Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation
Association of Pediatric/Hematology Oncology Nurses
Arms Wide Open Childhood Cancer Foundation
Battlecorn Care Packages
Bear Necessities
Books for Hope
Braden's Hope for Childhood Cancer
Cancer Free Kids
Carson Leslie Foundation
Children's Cancer Cause
Christina Renna Foundation
CureSearch for Children's Cancer
Dana Farber Cancer Institute
Daniela Conte Foundation
Elaine Roberts Foundation
Elevate Childhood Cancer Research and Advocacy, Inc
End Kids Cancer
Evan's Victory Against Neuroblastoma Foundation
Friends of Cathryn
Gabiella's Smile Foundation
Hope4ATRT





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Joey's Wings Foundation
Julia's Grace Foundation
Kiers Kidz
Leia's Kids
Lilabeen Foundation
Little Hearts of Hope
LivingLFS
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
MACC Fund
Mattie's Miracle Cancer Foundation
MIB Agents
Mighty Millie Foundation
Mithil Prasad Foundation
Morgan Adams Foundation
Mystic Force Foundation
NANT-PAC
Neev Kolte & Brave Ronil Foundation
Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society
Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids
Our Amazing Fighters
Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
People Against Childhood Cancer
Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund
PREP4Gold
Rally Foundation
Rett's Roost
Sam Day Foundation
Saving Sophie Foundation
Solving Kids' Cancer
Swifty Foundation
Team Jack Foundation
The Catherine Elizabeth Blair Memorial Foundation
The Grayson Foundation
The Ross K. MacNeill Foundation
The Scott Carter Foundation
The Steven G Cancer Foundation
The Taylor Matthews Foundation, a Tay-Bandz Organization
This Star Won't Go Out
Ty Louis Campbell Foundation
Yuvaan Tiwari Foundation
Zoe4Life

