



for every child

The Reach Every Mother and Child Act

Support legislation to improve U.S. Government efforts to end preventable maternal and child deaths



UNICEF/UN0329486 / KANOBANA

According to the latest child mortality report, the number of children dying before the age of five is at a new low. The rate of child mortality fell 62 per cent from 1990-2016. This is one of the greatest global success stories in the last 30 years.

Despite the incredible progress, 15,000 children still die every day, mostly from preventable and treatable causes such as pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria. Additionally, 303,000 women die annually due to complications during pregnancy and childbirth.

In partnership with UNICEF, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has played a leading role in reducing child deaths by increasing access to lifesaving vaccines, quality nutrition and other cost-effective interventions. But in order to reach the global goals of ending preventable child

and maternal deaths in a generation, USAID needs to do more.

Bipartisan legislation called the Reach Every Mother and Child Act of 2019 (S. 1766) would help the U.S. play its part to achieve those global goals. The Reach Act requires a U.S. Government strategy that sets targets and establishes reporting measures to assess and increase the effectiveness of child and maternal health programs. In addition, the Reach Act introduces innovative financing tools to bring new investors to the table and improve the stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

The world can end preventable child and maternal deaths in a generation – but only with sustained U.S. Government support for child survival programs and for UNICEF. Passing the Reach Every Mother and Child Act of 2019 would ensure that support! ●

UNICEF in Action

- Since 2000, UNICEF has saved the lives of 50 million children under age five.
- UNICEF has helped save more children’s lives than any other humanitarian organization.
- In the last ten years, UNICEF procured and helped distribute nearly 285 million mosquito nets in more than 30 countries.
- UNICEF helps immunize 45% of the world’s children. With UNICEF’s support, global immunization rates for children have quadrupled since 1980, saving an estimated 3 million lives per year.
- UNICEF works in more than 100 countries to improve access to safe, clean water and sanitation facilities. UNICEF has helped 2.6 billion people gain access to clean water since 1990.
- UNICEF is working to reduce global maternal mortality rates by two thirds before 2030. UNICEF and partner organizations seek to achieve this goal by increasing access to emergency obstetric care and offering community prenatal programming.

To learn more, contact UNICEF USA’s Office of Public Policy and Advocacy advocacy@unicefusa.org