

March 20, 2024

The Honorable Earl “Buddy” Carter
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
U.S. House of Representatives
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Carter and Castor:

On behalf of the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) and our nearly 50,000 members, I am writing to express our support for H.R. 6960, the *Emergency Medical Services for Children Reauthorization Act of 2024*, which would reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

As you know, pediatric patients represent a critical segment of the patient population with needs, both physical and emotional, that differ from adult patients. Children often suffer from diseases and conditions that require specialized treatment tailored to their unique needs. This is especially true when it comes to emergency care. Supplies, equipment and medications specific for children and adolescents must be available during an emergency to ensure the nation’s children receive the best care possible.

For more than 30 years, the EMSC program at HHS has supported projects to expand and improve emergency care for children who need treatment for traumatic or life-threatening illnesses and injuries. Since its inception, EMSC funds have helped improve pediatric emergency care in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In addition to funding several grant programs, EMSC supports the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network, which conducts important research into the prevention and management of acute illnesses and injuries in children in the emergency care setting.

As professionals on the frontlines of our nation’s health care system, emergency nurses are critical to providing emergency care, including to pediatric patients in need of lifesaving services. We thank you for introducing this legislation and for your leadership on this critical issue. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Kramer, ENA’s Director of Government Relations, at 202-465-4756.

Sincerely,



Chris Dellinger, MBA, BSN, RN, FAEN
2024 ENA President