

## EMSC Champion for Children Awards

In celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program, the EMSC National Resource Center and Children's National Medical Center are presenting the EMSC Champion for Children Award to seven distinguished policymakers. This award recognizes Federal leadership in improving the healthcare outcomes of children involved in a medical emergency. The awardees' have worked tirelessly to establish and maintain EMSC Program activities through Federal authorization and appropriations. The seven awardees are:

### **The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye**

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI), the third most senior member of the U.S. Senate, is one of the fathers of the EMSC Program. In the early 1980s, the Senator championed the development of EMS programs that decrease disability and death in children and sponsored legislation that led to the establishment of the EMSC Program in 1984. Most recently, he has sponsored the Wakefield Act, legislation to reauthorize the EMSC Program, in the 109<sup>th</sup>, 110<sup>th</sup>, and 111<sup>th</sup> Congresses.

Senator Inouye was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1962 and is now serving his eighth consecutive term. He is the current Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and as a member of this committee, he has worked to secure annual funding for the EMSC Program. He is also a member of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; Senate Indian Affairs Committee; Senate Rules and Administration Committee; the Joint Committee on Printing; and the Senate Democratic Steering and Coordination Committee.

### **The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch**

Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-UT), the fifth most senior member and most Senior Republican member of the U.S. Senate, is also a long-time champion for the EMSC Program. In the 1980s, Senator Hatch joined Senator Inouye in advocating for improved pediatric emergency medical care and sponsoring the legislation that established the EMSC Program. He has also cosponsored the Wakefield Act each year it has been introduced in the Senate.

Senator Hatch has served in the U.S. Senate since 1976. He is the former Chairman and current senior Republic member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and former Chairman and current member of what is now known as the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. He also serves on the Senate Aging Committee, Senate Finance Committee, Senate Intelligence Committee, and Senate Taxation Committee.

### **The Honorable Lowell Weicker, Jr.**

Governor Lowell Weicker, Jr. has a political career expanding over 30 years, including three terms as a U.S. Senator and one term as Governor of Connecticut. While serving in the U.S. Senate, the Governor recognized the need to ensure that all children continue to receive the highest quality of medical care when they are ill or injured and joined Senators Inouye and Hatch in supporting EMSC legislation.

During his tenure in the U.S. Senate, he served as the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Governor Weicker is the current President of the Board of Directors for Trust for America's Health, a non-profit, non-partisan, public health-related organization focusing on prevention, protection, and community.

### **The Honorable Jim Matheson**

Over the past few years, Representative Jim Matheson (D-UT) has become a leader in the U.S. House of Representatives for pediatric emergency medical care issues. In both the 110<sup>th</sup> and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, he not only introduced the House version of the Wakefield Act but was also successful in moving the bill through the legislative process. This past March, the Wakefield Act passed in the House of Representatives by a wide margin.

In January 2009, Representative Matheson was sworn in for a fifth term representing Utah's Second Congressional District. He serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over health care issues, including reauthorization of the EMSC Program, and is also a member of the House Science and Technology Committee.

### **The Honorable Peter T. King**

Representative Peter T. King (R-NY) is serving his ninth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. In keeping with his independent and bipartisan nature, Representative King has joined Representative Matheson as the primary Republican cosponsor of the Wakefield Act and helped steward the legislation through the House of Representatives.

He serves as the Ranking Member, or most senior Republican, on the House Homeland Security Committee, and is also a member of the House Financial Services Committee. Recently, Representative King was selected to chair the Congressional Fire Services Caucus and has fought for increased funding for first responders.

### **The Honorable Dave Reichert**

Representative Dave Reichert (R-WA) is a champion for children's health care issues in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is the founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Children's Health Care Caucus, dedicated to building support for legislation that improves the quality of care for children and their access to the quality care. In 2007, Representative Reichert introduced an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2008 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill to increase funding for the EMSC Program by \$2.5 million. That same year, the Caucus hosted a briefing on EMSC on Capitol Hill. Representative Reichert is also a strong advocate for the Wakefield Act and EMSC reauthorization.

Representative Reichert is serving his third term as the Representative from the Eighth Congressional District of Washington. He is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

### **The Honorable C.W. Bill Young**

Representative C.W. Bill Young (R-FL) is a longtime friend of the EMSC Program. As Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee for seven years, he ensured annual funding for the Program. He is also a cosponsor of the Wakefield Act.

Representative Young is serving his 20th term in Congress as a representative of the Tenth Congressional District of Florida. He is the senior member of the Florida congressional delegation and is the senior Republican in the entire Congress. He continues to serve on the House Appropriations Committee, and in that position, to support EMSC funding.