



The Kid Angle

Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children

120 lawmakers deliver good news for children — with a catch June 2, 2022

Contact: Michele Kayal, VP Media and Communications,
MicheleK@FirstFocus.org

8 members of Congress actively harm children

Our First Focus Campaign for Children released its annual [Legislative Scorecard](#) this week, naming **40 Senators and 80 members of the House from both parties as [Champions and Defenders of Children](#)**.

You can guess some of the names — Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) — they're perennial. Newcomers and rising stars include Jamaal Bowman (D-NY), Nikema Williams (D-GA), Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Raphael Warnock (D-GA). Our report also identifies **the eight worst performing lawmakers**, individuals whose votes and decisions actively harm children (you can probably guess some of those names, too).

The [120 Champions and Defenders of Children](#) earned their title by repeatedly using their legislative power to prioritize the well-being of our nation's children — sometimes against the instruction of their party leadership. In 2021, they helped lead the 117th Congress to the most significant investment in our nation's children [since First Focus on Children began tracking the measure 16 years ago](#). Legislation passed in response to the coronavirus pandemic — including the improved Child Tax Credit — increased the [share of federal spending on children from 7.64% to a historic 11.15%](#).

This is fantastic news. And....

Lawmakers must make such care for our children the norm, not the exception.

Our report drops as families and an entire community mourn 19 tiny coffins and two teachers in Uvalde. As the shortage of [baby formula escalates](#). As a mental health crisis ravages our young people. As [more than 3 million children are plunged back into poverty](#) by Congressional inaction that allowed the Child Tax Credit to expire.

[FFCC's 2021 Legislative Scorecard](#) is good news. But our kids are not alright. If the pandemic and its emergency responses taught us anything, it's that members of Congress can make change — when they want to.

More of them need to want to.



--
First Focus on Children
This email was sent to michelekayal3@gmail.com. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).