



The Kid Angle

Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children

Santa prepares coal delivery to West Virginia

December 16, 2021

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Plus, legislation: #ItsAKidsIssue

Santa prepares coal delivery to West Virginia

[First Focus Campaign for Children joined more than 450 organizations](#) who called on the Senate this week to pass the president's sweeping social spending plan before leaving town — and to maintain the racial equity impacts of the child tax credit that form the heart of the bill.

The bill remained snagged as of yesterday, when Sen. Joe Manchin reportedly demanded that the child tax credit be removed from the legislation. If that is indeed the case, the West Virginia lawmaker is likely to find a giant lump of coal in his stocking (though we're guessing he'd like that.) Yesterday also marked delivery of what might very well be [the last CTC check 61 million U.S. children will receive](#). To recap, most families are spending this money on frivolous nonsense, i.e. [food, rent, school supplies](#).



Homeless youth bill would improve access to services and advance equity

[First Focus Campaign for Children led hundreds of national, state and local organizations in endorsing the Homeless Children and Youth Act,](#) introduced this week by Reps. Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ) and Van Taylor (R-TX). The legislation would expand access to services and improve equity for children experiencing homelessness, whose numbers have swelled during the pandemic. The legislation would align HUD’s definition of “homelessness” with other federal agencies’ and would increase community discretion over the funds. For an in-depth look at homelessness among children, [visit our Policy Brief: Child, Youth and Family Homelessness in the United States: Undercounted and Misunderstood.](#)



Photo by [Jordan Whitt](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Child impact statements: #ItsAKidsIssue

For more than 50 years, the federal government has required an Environmental Impact Statement before initiating actions "significantly affecting the quality of the human environment." An EIS describes the anticipated positive and negative impacts of an action on the environment and acts as a decision-making tool. Now, a group of lawmakers wants to create "Child Impact Statements."

The [Children's Protection Act of 2021](#), introduced by Reps. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), would:

- Require all federal agencies to publish **analyses of any rule that may negatively affect 500 or more children** during the rulemaking process, and to mitigate harms

- Require these analyses to **evaluate a rule's impact on specific demographics of children and on multiple aspects of child well-being**, including physical and mental health, relationships with family and community members, educational outcomes, economic security, identity, and overall well-being unique to their developmental stage.
- Apply to both **domestic and international** initiatives

Find complete analysis of the bill's provisions in our [Fact Sheet: Children's Protection Act of 2021.](#)

Coming soon: Shout out to WaPo columnist Catherine Rampell for taking on [Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and his cruel policy toward unaccompanied children.](#) ***First Focus on Children and Florida-based pediatricians are marshalling advocates to protest the policies. Stay tuned.***

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