HELP PREVENT SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATHS IN OUR CHILDREN
Support the Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act (S.2746/H.R.669)

The Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act (S.2746/H.R.669) would amend the Public Health Service Act to help enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life. This legislation would provide for the continued development and updating of protocols and data collection related to stillbirths and sudden, unexpected deaths in both infants and children. By better understanding the causes of unexpected sudden death, we can do more to improve the health of infants and children.

Every year, there are more than 25,000 stillbirths in the United States. Many of these deaths are the result of birth defects, umbilical cord problems, chronic conditions of the mother, or infections. However, there is no known cause for as many as half of all stillbirths, leaving thousands of parents without any explanation for these deaths. In addition, there are more than 4,600 sudden unexpected infant deaths each year and another 200 children between the ages 1 and 4 who die without any clear cause for their death. Many of these tragedies could be prevented if there were a better understanding of the reasons for these heartbreaking deaths.

Specifically, this no-cost legislation would give the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) the authority to continue carrying out the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) activities related to:

**Stillbirth**
- Surveillance efforts to collect high-quality epidemiologic information on stillbirths, including utilization of the existing National Vital Statistics System (NVSS); and
- Continued development and dissemination of a standard protocol for stillbirth data collection and implementation through consultation with qualified individuals and organizations, to be updated no less than every five years.

**Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)**
- Surveillance efforts to gather sociodemographic, death scene investigation, clinical history, and autopsy information on SUID cases through existing surveillance systems;
- Continued development and dissemination of a standard protocol for SUID data reporting and surveillance to improve the public reporting of surveillance and vital statistics describing the epidemiology of SUID, to be updated no less than every five years;
- Continued dissemination of a standard death scene investigation protocol and development of guidelines for a standard autopsy protocol for SUID and support of training activities for professionals, to be updated no less than every five years; and
- Recommendations to health professional organizations regarding the integration of these protocols into training and continuing education programs.

**Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC)**
- Surveillance efforts to gather sociodemographic, death scene investigation, clinical history, and autopsy information on SUDC cases through existing records on SUDC;
- Continued development of guidelines for a standard autopsy protocol for SUDC, to be updated no less than every five years; and
- Evaluation of the possibility of carrying out additional programs and activities related to data collection on SUDC.

For more information or to be added as a co-sponsor S.2746/HR669, please contact:
Abigail Duggan in Senator Brown’s office at Abigail_Duggan@brown.senate.gov or (202) 224-2315, or
Daniel Auger in Senator Ayotte’s office at Daniel_Auger@ayotte.senate.gov or (202) 224-3324; or
Tiffany Guarascio in Congressman Pallone’s office at Tiffany.Guarascio@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-4671; or
Jamie Tricarico in Congressman King’s office at Jamie.Tricarico@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-7896