



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0800
(615) 741-2633 (FAX) 741-5956
1-800-264-0904

March 3, 2005

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
United States Senate
SH-302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 2051-4206

VIA FAX: 1-202-228-3398

RE: S. 415 – State Child Well-Being Research Act of 2005

Dear Senator Alexander:

The State Child Well-Being Research Act of 2005, sponsored by Senator Rockefeller, would provide funding for a state-level cross-sectional survey and set of indicators of child and family well-being. We understand there may be an agreement between Senator Rockefeller and Senator Grassley to provide \$9 million for this survey.

We strongly urge you to support the funding for this survey. Valid, reliable state-level data is extremely important for comparison and planning purposes for services for children and families. When similar legislation was pending last year, I had several conversations with Marguerite Sallee about its value for Tennessee. Now it appears there may be an agreement to make this much needed survey a reality.

The survey data would be very helpful for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth and the State of Tennessee in needs assessment, policy analysis and advocacy efforts. As you know, TCCY publishes an annual KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child Report. We provide your office with a copy each year. The data in the publications are used by policy makers, funding sources and fund seekers all across Tennessee. This survey data would enrich the information available for this report.

Please support funding for state child well-being research. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Linda O'Neal
Executive Director



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March 3, 2005

The Honorable Bill Frist
United States Senate
SD-461 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4205

VIA FAX: 1-202-228-1264

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