



Safe Kids and Healthy Communities

An Agenda for America's Families



School & Child Safety



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Ensure a Safe Learning Environment with Background Checks

The Schools SAFE Act (Sponsor: Santorum, S. 1896)

Beyond our own homes, the last place we should have to worry about our children is in our schools. In order to ensure a safe and secure environment for our children as they grow and learn, we must ensure that we hire safe faculty. This critical provision permits FBI background checks to prevent criminals and pedophiles from being hired for jobs working with children or around in our schools.

Safeguard Children from Internet Exploitation

Project Safe Childhood (Sponsor: Santorum, S. 3432)

The Internet creates additional challenges for child safety. Children can access images and information that may be entirely unsuitable and potentially destructive. This legislation authorizes and expands Project Safe Childhood, a critical Department of Justice program that protects children from Internet exploitation. The Project Safe Childhood Act adds new elements regarding child exploitation crimes, requires warning labels on commercial websites that contain sexually explicit material, and strengthening the requirements to effectively report child pornography. Appropriately, it will increase penalties for registered sex offenders, child sex trafficking and sexual abuse, and other child exploitation crimes. And to prevent the frequency of such heinous crimes, it will establish Children's Safety Online Awareness Campaigns and authorize grants for online child safety programs.





Support KIDS Accounts

ASPIRE Act (Sponsor: Santorum, S. 868)

Families face great expense as they plan for future expenditures, such as college. It is critically important that we offer asset-building opportunities for children and families. A KIDS Account provides an automatic savings account for every child at birth. The accounts will be supported by incentives designed to encourage savings, promote financial literacy, and expand asset-building opportunities like homeownership, education and retirement.

Battle Youth & Gang Violence

The Gang Prevention and Effective Deterrence Act of 2005 (Sponsor:

Feinstein, S. 155)

As violent, gang-related violence continues to threaten the security of our children and families, it is clear that we must increase and enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs. The Gang Prevention and Effective Deterrence Act of 2005 supports these goals and also authorizes funding over the next five years to support federal, state and local law enforcement efforts against violent gangs, including witness protection, intervention and prevention programs for at-risk youth, and more funding for federal prosecutors and FBI agents involved in coordinated enforcement efforts against violent gangs.

Provide Comprehensive Meth Treatment to Protect Kids

Family-Based Meth Treatment Access Act of 2006, (Sponsor: Talent, S. 3055)

At least 70 percent of the child welfare cases in the U.S., including social services, family courts, foster care and adoption agencies, involve a substance abusing

parent. The Family-Based Meth Treatment Access Act expands, intensifies and coordinates efforts to provide comprehensive, family-based substance abuse treatment for methamphetamine addiction, since substance abuse is a problem that affects not only the user, but also the entire family. This legislation also provides counseling, medical treatment, parenting training, education and legal services to mothers recovering from meth and their children, yielding consistently positive outcomes in child well-being, family stability, and lower recidivism rates.

Protect Kids from Harmful Substances

Antifreeze Bittering Agent Act of 2005 (Sponsor: Allen, S. 1110)

The bill would require manufacturers to add a bittering agent, denatonium benzoate (DB), to antifreeze to remove its sweet taste and make it unpalatable to children. Children and pets ingest antifreeze because of the sweet taste, resulting in the death of hundreds of children and thousands of pets every year.