



Dear Senators:

The undersigned organizations urge you to cosponsor S. 3864, the Stop CMV Act, introduced by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Chris Murphy (D-CT) and Roger Marshall (R-KS), to reduce the incidence of birth defects and other disabilities attributed to congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV).

While few Americans have ever heard of cCMV, it is the most common infectious cause of birth defects and the leading non-genetic cause of hearing loss in infants. 1 in 200 children are born with congenital CMV (cCMV) every year, with approximately 20 percent of these newborns developing serious health complications from the infection. Early intervention is key to reducing the impact of congenital CMV and ensuring children with cCMV receive the monitoring and services they need.

The bipartisan Stop CMV Act authorizes funding to states for hospitals and other healthcare entities caring for infants to administer congenital CMV tests and encourages state healthcare agencies to prescribe standards and procedures for the administration of these tests. The bill also creates grant programs to provide funds to administer CMV tests, improve CMV data collection systems, and assist in CMV education and training. Lastly, the bill advances National Institutes of Health research for screening techniques, diagnostics, risk reduction, vaccines, and treatments.

With your help, we can reduce the impact of cCMV! Please add your name today as a cosponsor to S. 3864 to increase early detection of cCMV and significantly reduce birth defects in children caused by this disorder.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Epilepsy Foundation
Healthy Birth Day, Inc.
National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management
The National CMV Foundation
PUSH for Empowered Pregnancy
Washington CMV Project