

ALLIANCE FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER

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Craig Lustig, MPA
The Children's Cause for
Cancer Advocacy

Edwin Forman, MD
American Academy of
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American Cancer Society

American Pediatric
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American Society for
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Radiology/Oncology

American Society of
Clinical Oncology

American Society of Pediatric
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Association of Pediatric
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Cancer Foundation

Chai Lifeline

Children's Brain Tumor
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Children's Oncology Group

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National Children's Cancer
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Patient Advocate Foundation

Pediatric Brain Tumor
Foundation

Sarcoma Foundation of America

Society of Pediatric Psychology

The Children's Cause for
Cancer Advocacy

The Leukemia & Lymphoma
Society

The Wellness Community

April 28, 2008

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, Room: 476
1st and C Streets, N.E.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Clinton,

The Alliance for Childhood Cancer, representing twenty national patient advocacy groups and professional medical, health and scientific organizations, is pleased to support "The Pediatric, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancer Survivorship Research and Quality of Life Act of 2007" (S.2877). We commend you for introducing legislation that would enhance research and programs for young cancer survivors that will lead to improved health for the growing number of survivors of childhood cancers.

The population of survivors of childhood cancers has grown exponentially over the years. In 1960, only four percent of children with cancer survived more than five years compared to 270,000 survivors of childhood cancers as of 1997. As many as two-thirds of these survivors are experiencing late effects of treatment, and one-fourth experience effects that are serious or life threatening. With so many survivors experiencing these late effects, it is critical that resources are made available to all childhood cancer survivors, especially those in minority or underserved communities. The Alliance welcomes the legislation's provisions to establish clinics for comprehensive long-term follow-up services for survivors, grants to improve access to care for survivors of childhood cancer, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cancer control programs aimed at providing guidance to states and encouraging them to improve systems of care for survivors of childhood cancer.

The Alliance for Childhood Cancer advocates efforts to advance research and policies to improve the diagnosis, treatment, care, and survivorship of children and adolescents with cancer, as well as enhance public awareness. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to pass this important piece of legislation to help childhood cancer survivors.

Sincerely,

Craig Lustig, MPA Edwin Forman, MD
Co-Chair Co-Chair