

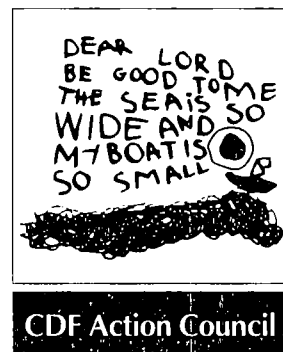
## MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties

DT: June 29, 2000

FR: Marian Wright Edelman, President  
Children's Defense Fund Action Council

RE: 1999 CDF Action Council Nonpartisan Congressional Voting Record



Enclosed is a copy of the 1999 Children's Defense Fund Action Council Nonpartisan Congressional Voting Record.

We chose 15 votes affecting millions of children in the House and the Senate and scored Members of Congress based on the number of votes they cast to support children. In addition, we averaged Congressional delegations for a state score and then ranked the states according to how well they protected children. Next year, we will grade Members of Congress based on their score and then rank Members from best to worst.

In 1999, 37 Senators and 51 House Members scored 100 percent -- please thank them warmly for their support and leadership for children. There were 47 Senators and 117 House Members who scored below 50 percent -- please ask them to work harder and vote better for children in 2000 and 2001.

| <u>Best 10 States</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Worst 10 States</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Rank</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Massachusetts         | 97.2%        | 1           | Kansas                 | 40.5%        | 41          |
| Rhode Island          | 96.5         | 2           | Missouri               | 39.4         | 42          |
| Connecticut           | 93.8         | 3           | New Hampshire          | 34.5         | 43          |
| Hawaii                | 93.0         | 4           | Alabama                | 33.4         | 44          |
| North Dakota          | 93.0         | 4           | Arizona                | 32.9         | 45          |
| New Jersey            | 91.9         | 6           | Kentucky               | 32.6         | 46          |
| Maryland              | 91.2         | 7           | Alaska                 | 30.0         | 47          |
| California            | 86.5         | 8           | Idaho                  | 24.8         | 48          |
| Vermont               | 86.3         | 9           | Wyoming                | 24.8         | 48          |
| West Virginia         | 84.9         | 10          | Oklahoma               | 23.6         | 50          |

We hope that in the year 2000, every Member of Congress will score high in protecting children. We urge all Members of Congress to review our 2000-2001 Children's Action Agenda to Leave No Child Behind.®

At a time of great economic prosperity, 13.5 million children still live in poverty. Millions more live in families struggling each day to make ends meet -- just barely escaping poverty. With a \$40 billion federal budget surplus estimated this year (and a projected \$1 trillion surplus over the next decade), when is the time ever to be better to invest in children? We urge you to work with us to make sure that every child has a healthy start, and is ready to learn and achieve.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Grace Reef, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, CDF Action Council at 202-662-3576.

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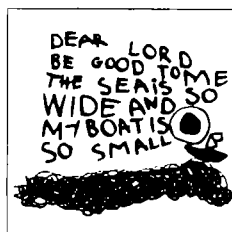
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# How Well Do Your Members of Congress Protect Children?



**The 1999 Children's Defense Fund Action Council  
Nonpartisan Congressional Voting Record**



**CDF Action Council**®