PATIENT ALERT!

Action needed by Nov. 19th



TELL SENATORS TO "JUST SAY NO!"

TO MANDATORY PSYCHIATRIC SCREENING & DRUGGING CHILDREN

The Senate will re-convene the week of Nov. 15 in with the sole purpose of passing an omnibus appropriations bill – work left incomplete before the elections.

Included in the current version of the appropriations bill is funding for grants to implement universal mental health screening for almost 60 million children, pregnant women, and adults through schools and pre-schools.

The bill would fund initiatives of the "New Freedom Commission on Mental Health," including a program designed to subject every school age child in this country to psychological testing and recommendations for treatment – including psychotropic drugs, antidepressants, etc.

The House has already voted to appropriate \$20 million for the scheme, and the Senate wants to bump it up to \$44 million.

This is a dangerous scheme that will heap even more coercive pressure on parents to medicate children with potentially dangerous side effects, including suicide. Further, even the government's own task force has concluded that mental health screening does little to prevent suicide.

Thanks in great measure to your efforts, we have made significant progress to stop this scheme.

Leadership in the House of Representatives has now agreed to help us, and your letters last week have brought a number of Senators on board as well. But we now need the support of four key Senators:

> Sen. Spector (R-PA) Sen. Stevens (R-AK) Sen. Harkin (D-IA) Sen. Frist (R-TN)

Please call their offices and ask them to make sure the omnibus spending bill or final committee report on Labor/HHS appropriations includes the following language:

"None of the funds made available for State incentive grants for transformation should be used for any programs of mandatory or universal mental-health screening that performs mental-health screening on anyone under 18 years of age without the express, written permission of the parents or legal guardians of each individual involved."

CONGRESSIONAL SWITCHBOARD: (202) 224-3121

Protect our children from being screened, stigmatized, categorized, and forcibly treated. **EVERY CALL MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**



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