

Help Us Make Childhood Cancer History with H. Res. 404: Sign-on Letter to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer

[Sign-on SUPPORT FORM](#)

[Letter to the Majority Leader](#)

We have a unique opportunity RIGHT NOW through the end of this Congress, with your consideration for lending your signature and/or the support of your organization, to see history made for the childhood cancer awareness movement before the end of this Congress with a vote scheduled for the DIPG Awareness Resolution, H. Res. 404!

As a mom who lost her son to DIPG, told initially that he would die and there was nothing to be done because he and others like him were not an adequate investment incentive, I came to discover that I was not alone in my outrage. In fact, **I discovered that, no matter how “rare” DIPG might be, it represents—in all of its horror—a powerful opportunity to raise awareness** to the neglect of childhood cancer research investment, as an Ambassador of sorts for childhood cancer awareness, and most importantly, to accelerate a cure as only a quantum leap in national awareness can do.

We need your help! After 7 years, 4 Congresses, and by 2023, 2800 more children lost to DIPG alone since the first introduction of the DIPG Awareness Resolution, we will have a solid House Majority of cosponsors signed before December! Right now we are making the case to the **House Majority Leader that H. Res. 404 qualifies to be scheduled** for a vote. Scheduling is the next step. This is what this sign-on letter is for.

This will make history for Congress, also, as the Patriot’s Day resolution is the only other of its kind—a “commemorative” resolution includes a designated day of recognition— which has been given this opportunity since 1995. Excessive overuse (1960s - 1990s) made their restriction necessary, and so our burden has been to make the case that the resolution’s subject matter meets the requirements for exception which is the purpose of our letter to Representative Hoyer.

**Like many of you,
I’m tired of hearing excuses as to why this neglect of our children is unavoidable or justifiable, and that corporate interests are more important than our children’s lives.**

We can’t change the system with this resolution alone, but we can make an important beginning with H. Res. 404, for Congress to acknowledge that our children have been systematically left behind, that with greater awareness our collective creativity could be better employed to fill the gaps and expedite effective therapies. H. Res. 404 asks that pediatric and high mortality rate cancers have greater consideration for research grants, and that federal investment into childhood cancer research in general be increased considering the unmet medical needs of this voiceless population. **We also hope that, with increased awareness in Congress of the unmet needs of our children, important childhood cancer legislation will be met with more timely support and less resistance for re-authorizations.**

Today we have a chance, a real shot at it! We have the numbers, the support of the Speaker's office and Committee Leadership; **now we just need the approval of the House Majority Leader** as he is in charge of the actual scheduling. We would appreciate your signature of support for this letter to Rep. Steny Hoyer to allow scheduling for H. Res. 404, an unparalleled opportunity to raise to accelerate a cure for the DIPG death sentence, and bring national attention to the unmet needs of children with cancer. Children continue to suffer and die from this terrible disease, as with most other childhood cancer types, as you well know. Visit passhres404.com for more ways to support.

Action Items:

- #1: [Sign-on Form to support a vote](#) (links to below information included)
- #2 Email us at moonshot4kids@gmail.com a picture with your child's name, where you are from, for the actual vote
- #3 Here is a sample note to your Rep

Reference Items:

- Here is the actual [Letter to the Majority Leader](#)
- [H. Res. 404 Press Summary](#) giving a brief history of the resolution
- [Letter to Congress](#) which includes a copy of the resolution text and endorsements for the resolution since 2016
- [Program with presenter time-stamps](#) to the Moonshot4Kids [Congressional/OSTP briefing](#).

Thank you for your kind consideration! We hope this opens the door not only to greater opportunities to support children with cancer, but in encouraging greater participation and hope in the future of our democracy.

→ With the resolution scheduled for time for a House Vote, the **NEXT STEP** will be to rally together for the actual vote for which **the threshold for it to pass will be 290**. We will encourage families to call, write, and email their Representatives encouraging them to support H. Res. 404! We ask you to send pictures of your children to be present at the vote, for you, to create an amazing celebration of this powerful acknowledgment and triumph for all children with cancer or deadly childhood disease. This is our #Moonshot4Kids.

[Make sure your Rep's a cosponsor](#)

[Sample note to ask for a YES VOTE!](#)

Very truly yours,

Janet Demeter, Jack's mom.

Jack's Angels

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<https://dipgadvocacy.org/help-us-make-childhood-cancer-history/>