

Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Bill of 2005



*Our children's lives should be
fun, happy and carefree...*

...Sadly, that's not always the case.

Meet Heather Nickolett.

Only 15 months old, Heather Nickolett was diagnosed with Systemic Onset Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

(SoJIA). What a big name for our little girl! Just one of several forms of



Juvenile Arthritis (JA), common symptoms of SoJIA include fever, rash, decreased energy level, and painful arthritis. Unchecked, it can destroy joints, continue through to adulthood, and even lead to death.

Over the past six years, we have helplessly witnessed our child endure the pain and discomfort associated with SoJIA. Although not actually cured, her condition has gradually improved. However, the nature of the disease is such that it could flare at any time. While some patients suffering with Juvenile Arthritis appear to outgrow the disease, many others see the illness carry over into adulthood. Heather already has bone density and muscle loss associated with Juvenile Arthritis that could plague her for the rest of her life.

The Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Bill of 2005 is important

for tens of thousands of children like Heather throughout the United States. Due, in part, to a nationwide deficiency of pediatric



rheumatologists, many of these kids currently have little or no access to specialists. The Bill will address this shortfall, encouraging physicians to enter the field of pediatric rheumatology. Early diagnosis and effective treatment of the disease will enable more children nationwide to benefit from a reduction of arthritis pain and disability.

The Bill will also accelerate much needed Juvenile Arthritis research. Not only will studies improve the medical treatment and quality of life for many children, but their lifetime healthcare costs will be reduced, too. Ultimately, the research made possible by this Bill may lead to a cure for Juvenile Arthritis.



By supporting the Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Bill of 2005 you can make a real, significant improvement in the lives of families like ours all across America. Please join us in helping those who can't help themselves. Fight to end Juvenile Arthritis!

The most frightening memories of childhood should be of Halloween

(NOT Juvenile Arthritis)

The thing that goes *bump* in
the night ought NOT be a child's walker.

Help us make this disease less
debilitating – support
the Arthritis Prevention, Control,
and Cure Bill of 2005.

Thanks for your support!



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