Call Your Legislator

Calling your legislators is a great way to advocate for our causes directly! To make the biggest impact, join us on our national call-in day leading up to World Polio Day on Thursday, October 21, when Champions across the country will also be calling into offices.

If you aren’t able to join us on the call-in day, you can call anytime during October and beginning of November using the following information.

Instructions:

1. Call Capitol Hill at 202-902-6614. Using this number allows us to track your efforts!
2. You will either be prompted to enter your zip code to be connected to your representatives, or you will be connected to an operator and can ask for your representatives by name. If you don’t know your House member, you can look them up here: [https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative](https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative)
3. Once you are connected to the representative’s office, tell the staff member who answers the phone that you have an opinion on global health and foreign aid that you would like to share with the member of Congress and ask if you can leave that opinion with the staffer.
4. Deliver your talking points, summarized below (Find full talking points on [shotatlife.org/m2i](https://shotatlife.org/m2i))
   a. I represent the Shot@Life campaign in [your district/your state]. The campaign is a part of the UN Foundation and educates, connects, and empowers Americans to champion global vaccines as one of the most cost-effective investments the U.S. government can make to save the lives of children in low-income countries.
   b. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the suspension of vaccinations, jeopardizing decades of child immunization progress.
5. State the “asks”
   - For the final Fiscal Year 2022 package, please fully fund U.S. government global vaccine activities at the highest levels included in the Senate appropriations bills:
     - **Labor-HHS-Appropriations Subcommittee**
       o $231 million for CDC Global Immunization Division
         - $181 million for CDC/GID polio eradication activities
         - $50 million for CDC/GID measles elimination programs
     - **State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Appropriations Subcommittee**
       o $101 million for USAID polio eradication efforts
       o $290 million for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
       o $134 million for UNICEF
       o $124 million for WHO (assessed contributions)
   - The D.C. office should have received an email leading up to World Polio Day on October 24th. Would you be willing to tweet something out in support from [bit.ly/worldpolioday2021](https://bit.ly/worldpolioday2021)?
6. Ask if the staffer requires any follow-up information.
7. You may also ask if the member has a current stance on global vaccines, global health, or foreign aid. Request a response indicating the member’s position on this matter.
8. If the office gets back to you with a specific appropriations request form, please let us know and we will help fill it out.
9. Report your action using the reporting form at shotatlife.org/report

If your call is not answered, don’t worry. You can leave a message! Be prepared that they may call you back.

Script: Hi my name is __ and I’m a constituent of Sen/Rep __. I’m calling today to talk about global childhood immunization programs and why Sen/Rep __ should support funding U.S. government global vaccine activities at the highest levels in FY22. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the suspension of vaccinations, jeopardizing decades of childhood immunization progress. This means supporting global health systems like USAID, UNICEF, Gavi, and the CDC is more important now than ever. If you have any questions or would like the specific amounts for these requests, please give me a call at XXX-XXX-XXXX. Thank you.