



## ***U.S. Congress Briefing***

# ***A Healthy Start for Every Child: How the Environment Influences Health & Development***

**Tuesday, September 24, 2019**

**12:00 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Room 902, Hart Senate Office Building**

*- Lunch will be served -*

Children are especially vulnerable to hazards in the environment because their brains, lungs, and other organ systems are rapidly developing. Pound for pound, children also breathe more air and consume more food and water than adults, potentially exposing them to proportionately higher levels of environmental toxicants. Children's unique behavior patterns, such as playing close to the ground and putting their hands, toys, and objects in their mouths, also increase their risk of exposure. Please join us to learn about the newest research on childhood exposures, including to air pollution and per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and how the environment can influence the development of diseases such as asthma and neurodevelopmental disorders.

### **Speakers:**

#### **Welcome and Research Overview**

**Linda S. Birnbaum, Ph.D., D.A.B.T., A.T.S.**

Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and National Toxicology Program (NTP)  
National Institutes of Health

#### **Do Low Levels of PFAS in Drinking Water Threaten Child Health?**

**Joseph M. Braun, RN, MSPH, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Epidemiology  
Brown University

#### **Indoor Air Quality and Childhood Asthma**

**Nadia N. Hansel, M.D., MPH**

Associate Dean for Research & Professor of Medicine  
Johns Hopkins Medicine

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*With Special Thanks to Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC)*

Cosponsored by: Friends of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, American Lung Association, American Thoracic Society, Children's Environmental Health Network, National Center for Environmental Health Strategies, Inc., Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, Society of Toxicology, The Toxicology Forum

(This is a widely attended event)