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Headline: International Advocacy Organization Celebrates Awareness Act Approval

Franklin, TX- [International Mosaic Down Syndrome Association](#) is celebrating the passing of the Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act (S.1810), cosponsored in bipartisan coalition with Senators Kennedy (D-Mass) and Brownback (R-Kansas).

This Act, which cosponsors and advocacy leaders have been working on for the past three years, was passed through the Senate and the House this past week and is now on its way for signature by President Bush to pass it into law. The Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act ensures that families who receive prenatal or postnatal diagnoses of mosaic Down syndrome, Down syndrome, Trisomy 18, Trisomy 13, or other genetic conditions will receive to up-to-date, accurate information about their child's condition and connection with services that offer support for families affected by these conditions.

"We are all celebrating today in this huge step towards making a difference for the families whose babies and children are diagnosed with mosaic Down syndrome as well as other genetic conditions." said Kristy Colvin, president and co-founder of International Mosaic Down Syndrome Association. "We hope that this bill will help families to receive the accurate information that they deserve and help those families who are often overwhelmed with the news of a diagnosis through the support and information they will now have access to."

The Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act will enable the creation of a national clearinghouse on information for parents of children with disabilities such as mosaic Down syndrome, Down syndrome, Trisomy 18, Trisomy 13 as well as other disabilities. In addition this bill creates a national registry of families willing to adopt children with pre- or post-natally diagnosed conditions. Currently, there is a two year waiting list to adopt children with Down syndrome, with this registry this list will be coordinated in a more organized way and help both biological and adoptive parents.

"We are thrilled to be a part of this historic event" says Colvin "With the abortion rate of 90% for those with Down syndrome; we hope that this act will help change perspectives with the inaccurate information currently being received by the majority of families and make a difference within our communities. "

The International Mosaic Down Syndrome Association (IMDSA) is designed to provide support, information and research to those touched by mosaic Down syndrome. Mosaic Down syndrome is a rare form of Down syndrome where a percentage of cells have the extra 21st chromosome found in Down syndrome and the remaining cells are unaffected. According to research, mosaic Down syndrome occurs in 2-4% of the Down syndrome population, however this number is likely much higher due to those who go undiagnosed and the many who are misdiagnosed with Trisomy 21 Down syndrome.

This bill will provide a new hope for parents of children with these prenatal and postnatal diagnoses. Parents will have a better opportunity to receive up-to-date information on the genetic condition and the treatment options available. Additionally, this bill offers referrals to support services, accurate resources, adoption registries and parent support networks, so families will be informed and health care professionals and the entire community will have updated knowledge on what it means to truly have these genetic conditions.