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## ***School-Based Health Clinic Act of 2007* Introduced in House of Representatives**

Washington, DC, November 15, 2007 – Today, Rep. Shelley Moore Capito [R-WV] and Rep. Darlene Hooley [D-OR], along with 17 original cosponsors, introduced HR 4230: *The School Based Health Clinic Act of 2007*, to increase the number of school-based health centers (SBHCs) and expand their ability to reach even more children by providing much needed federal funding. HR 4230 is the House companion bill to Senate Bill 600, introduced in February.

Because SBHCs provide care on-site at schools, children have ready access to primary, preventive, and mental health services. Forty-five percent of children treated at SBHCs have no insurance and 44 percent are enrolled in Medicaid, SCHIP, or other public coverage. The School-Based Health Clinic Act effectively focuses federal resources by prioritizing requests from SBHCs in communities that have high rates of uninsurance or evidence barriers to accessing care. SBHCs thus can and do act as important sources of care in both urban and rural communities.

“This is a great step forward in ensuring health care access to students with the greatest need,” said John Schlitt, Executive Director, National Assembly on School-Based Health Care. “With federal legislation in both the House and Senate, we have a chance to sustain the SBHC model and keep students in class, healthy and learning.”

In their letter requesting support from their colleagues in Congress, Reps. Capito and Hooley acknowledged that SBHCS are ideally located to provide comprehensive primary and preventative care, as well as mental health services to adolescents - the group the American Medical Association rates as having the poorest health indicators.

To learn more about the School-Based Health Clinic Act of 2007 or to cosponsor, please contact Travis Robey with Congresswoman Hooley (5-5711 or [travis.robey@mail.house.gov](mailto:travis.robey@mail.house.gov) <<mailto:travis.robey@mail.house.gov>> ) or Aaron Sporck with Congresswoman Capito (5-2711 or [aaron.sporck@mail.house.gov](mailto:aaron.sporck@mail.house.gov) <<mailto:aaron.sporck@mail.house.gov>> ).

*The National Assembly on School-Based Health Care is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to nurture interdisciplinary school-based health care.*