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Working Mother Media and Corporate Voices for Working Families Honor Congressional Members Making a Difference for Working Families

WASHINGTON (Aug. 12, 2008) – Honoring leaders on Capitol Hill for improving the American quality of life through family-friendly work policies, **Working Mother Media** and **Corporate Voices for Working Families** are announcing the 24 recipients of the inaugural Best of Congress award. The award spotlights congressional excellence in supporting working families through legislation and by practicing what they preach – employing family-friendly policies in their own offices. Equally important, the award honors individual members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and throughout the country for their leadership in improving the quality of life for working families.

Recipients of the Best of Congress award are featured in the August/September 2008 issue of *Working Mother* magazine and at www.workingmother.com.

“Not only did we judge the esteemed members on their voting records for supporting working families, we also examined the benefits that their own employees receive like paid leave and flextime,” Carol Evans, CEO, Working Mother Media, said. “There are no rules about flextime or paid leave for Congressional staff. They are stepping up voluntarily because they believe in progressive policies and act on their beliefs in the real world managing their staff.”

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“The recipients of the Best of Congress award serve as models for what can be accomplished through legislation and a personal commitment to policies that benefit working families,” Donna Klein, president and founder of Corporate Voices for Working Families, said. “As our nation wrestles with a host of economic and other issues involving working families, these members of Congress deserve to be congratulated and recognized nationally for their leadership and support.”

Recipients of the Best of Congress award are:

U.S. Senate

- Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-Delaware)
- Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio)
- Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-Pennsylvania)
- Christopher J. Dodd (D-Connecticut)
- Elizabeth Dole (R-North Carolina)
- Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-Texas)
- Johnny Isakson (R-Georgia)
- Amy Klobuchar (D-Minnesota)
- Herb Kohl (D-Wisconsin)
- Gordon H. Smith (R-Oregon)

U.S. House of Representatives

- Tom Allen (D-Maine)
- Russ Carnahan (D-Missouri)
- Rosa L. DeLauro (D-Connecticut)
- Chaka Fattah (D-Pennsylvania)
- Carolyn B. Maloney (D-New York)
- Deborah Pryce (R-Ohio)
- Dave Reichert (R-Washington)
- C.A. “Dutch” Ruppberger (D-Maryland)
- Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Florida)
- Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-Pennsylvania)
- Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut)
- Ellen O. Tauscher (D-California)

- Lynn Woolsey (D-California)
- John Yarmuth (D-Kentucky)

Fifty members of Congress submitted applications for this inaugural award. Applicants were judged on their voting record, sponsored/co-sponsored legislation, and efforts to promote legislation that supports working families. In addition, applicants were asked to submit policies and practices within their own offices that support working families and flexible workplace options.

Applications were reviewed by a bipartisan steering committee co-chaired by Ted Childs, Founder and Principal of Ted Childs, LLC and Jane Swift, Founder and Principal of WNP Consulting, LLC and former Governor of Massachusetts. Also on the steering committee reviewing applications were Patricia Kempthorne, Founder and Executive Director of the Twiga Foundation and Pat Schroeder, President and CEO of the Association of American Publishers and former congresswoman from Colorado.

The Best of Congress award will be presented to members of Congress at a recognition breakfast in Washington on Sept. 10, at Sewell House. Recipients of the Best of Congress award will attend, and Antonio M. Perez, CEO of Kodak, will talk about the award and issues involving working families.

Working Mother magazine has been in the forefront of the movement to improve the quality of life for working families for over 22 years and annually honors the 100 best companies whose policies create family-friendly workplaces.

About Corporate Voices for Working Families

Corporate Voices for Working Families is the leading national business membership organization representing the private sector on public policy issues involving working families. We aim to improve the lives of working families and the competitiveness of American businesses. Our Web site: www.cvworkingfamilies.org. Our blog: www.corporatevoices.wordpress.com.

About Working Mother Media

Founded in 1979, *Working Mother* magazine reaches 2 million readers and is the only national magazine for career-committed mothers. Its 22-year signature initiative, Working Mother 100 Best Companies, is the most important benchmark for work/life practices in corporate America. Working Mother is published by Working Mother Media, which was founded in 2001. WMM includes the National Association for Female Executives (NAFE), Diversity Best Practices, the WorkLife Congress, the Multicultural Women's

Conference and Town Halls. Working Mother Media's mission is to champion culture change. For more information, please visit www.workingmother.com.