



Sponsored by Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA)

Please join the American Bar Association, Children's Advocacy Institute, First Focus and the National Association of Counsel for Children for a Congressional briefing on:

Children's Right to Counsel

**Monday, September 12, 1:30p.m.
Rayburn House Office Building, Rm. 2168 Gold Room**

Light refreshments will be served

Every day in America, hundreds of thousands of children are involved in court cases that implicate their rights and impact every imaginable aspect of their lives. These cases involve matters of child abuse and neglect, immigration and deportation, juvenile delinquency and others. While children in some of these cases are constitutionally guaranteed an attorney by their side during these confusing and frightening cases, many others go unrepresented as a judge determines their fate.

We have made considerable progress in the last decades in understanding the unique legal rights and needs of children in these cases. Yet state and federal law still lags behind the community consensus that these youngest and most vulnerable litigants must have their legal rights protected and be provided with zealous representation and an opportunity to have their voice heard.

Please join us at a congressional briefing to learn from experts on this issue. Panelists to include:

Moderator: Kendall Marlowe M.S.W., J.D., National Association of Counsel for Children

Child Welfare/Dependency: Clark Peters Ph.D., J.D., A.M., University of Missouri

Children in Immigration Courts: Jennifer Podkul J.D., Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)

Juvenile Justice: Kim Dvorchak J.D., National Juvenile Defender Center

Stories from the Front & Roadmap for Action: Jennifer Renne, J.D., ABA Center on Children and the Law

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