# There’s Only One Country That Hasn’t Ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child: United States of America

Advocate for children by sending a message to members of the Senate, asking them to take concrete action to promote children's rights and welfare to protect children from abuse and neglect in our country.  
  
**Ways to contact your Senator:**Click [here](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) to contact and send a message to your [**Senate Representative**](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) using the contact information and forms provided through this link.

Or, mail to:

The Honorable [Name of Senator]

United States Senate

Washington, D.C. 20510

### Email or Sample Letter to Contact your Senator

*You may copy and paste the letter below into the message field of any contact form or you may use it in the body of an email to your Senate Representative. Be sure to enter the name of your representative at the start of the message, and include or sign your name at the end. Consider adding your own personal anecdote or observation to the messages you send.*

Dear Senator [*Name*]:

In November 2017, we reach the 28th anniversary of the adoption of the **1989 Convention of the Rights of the Child** (the “CRC”). The United States signed this important human rights treaty protecting children and families 22 years ago, after a decade of critical drafting input by the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations and years of support from the Clinton Administration.

I am writing to urge you to supporttheratification of this most **universally-ratified human rights treaty** in history. To date, 196 countries have adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. **The United State of American** is the **ONLY state** that has not yet ratified the CRC. Thus, we remain outside the international legal system established to hold nations accountable for their treatment of children and youth, diminishing our global credibility and leadership on issues concerning children.

In 2000, with bipartisan support, the United States ratified two Optional Protocols to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography, and on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. Since then, our government has been submitting reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as it would if it signed the parent treaty, the CRC, with positive results.

The children and youth in the U.S. deserve and need the same protections from abuse, neglect, and exploitation that other children around the world have been promised. Let us bring this same promise home to our most vulnerable and powerless citizens by **ratifying the CRC** and **implementing domestic legislation to ensure its protections for families and children**.

With your “advice and consent,” you can send the CRC to the President to ratify the treaty this year, the 28th anniversary of its unanimous adoption by the United Nations. Please cast your vote in favor of the CRC, thereby supporting children in need at home and around the world.

Sincerely,

*[Insert Your Name]*

*[District or State]*

*[Contact Information] (if you wish/want a reply)*