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McCaul Calls for Full Weight of Federal Government to Fight Childhood Cancer

(Washington D.C.)- Today, Congressman Michael McCaul (R-Texas) joined other members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate in urging the federal government to throw its support, funding and resources behind the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2006.

"Statistics tell us that childhood cancer is curable in 75 percent of patients," said Congressman McCaul. He went on to say, "That means that out of 4 kids with cancer, 3 survive, but it also means is that 1 child dies and that is unacceptable."

McCaul took a personal interest in the battle against childhood cancer after meeting the Culliver family from Brenham. Tim and Donna Culliver lost their son Adam to cancer on January 20, 2003.

"I can't imagine a greater pain in the world than having to watch your child's life taken by cancer. After hearing the Culliver's story, we must do more to help find a cure for this dreaded disease," stated Congressman Michael McCaul.

The Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2006 will give a voice to the thousands of children and families in the United States who have been touched by childhood cancer, and will give the thousands of physicians, nurses and scientists the tools they need to continue their mission to find a cure for the disease.

Specifically, the legislation provides increased support for biomedical research programs into pediatric cancer; establishes a childhood cancer database to help researchers identify genetic causes of pediatric cancer and develop prevention strategies; authorizes the development, construction and operation of a comprehensive online information system to provide patients and their families with information on childhood cancer and cancer support services; and establishes a fellowship program in pediatric cancer research to encourage young researchers to focus on pediatric oncology.

Congressman McCaul will be working with CureSearch and fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives to appropriate more funding for cancer research and hopefully find a cure for childhood cancer.