The newly appointed US Secretary of Labor has called on Congress to take decisive action to combat the growing issue of child labor in the United States. In a statement released on March 11, 2025, the Secretary highlighted alarming trends suggesting an increase in child labor violations, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries.

The Secretary's remarks come amid rising concerns about the exploitation of vulnerable children and the long-term consequences this practice has on education, health, and economic well-being. The Labor Department is currently working to strengthen enforcement mechanisms and enhance protections for children in the workforce.

As part of this initiative, the Secretary is urging lawmakers to support legislation aimed at increasing penalties for child labor violations and expanding resources for compliance investigations. Additionally, the Secretary emphasizes the importance of public awareness campaigns to educate families about their rights and the implications of child labor.

The call to action reflects a growing recognition of the need to address systemic inequalities and safeguard the rights of children in the workforce. With bipartisan support, advocates hope to create a stronger framework for protecting children and ensuring that they have the opportunity to thrive in safe and nurturing environments.