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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515-6115

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July 23, 2007

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Children's Groups Know What George Bush Doesn't: Fully Funding SCHIP is Imperative to Preserving Children's Coverage.

Dear Democratic Colleague:

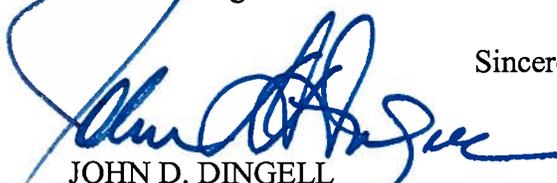
As we undertake reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), don't just listen to what we have to say. Instead, listen to the advocates who understand the critical need for providing health insurance for kids, and who support a timely and adequately-funded reauthorization:

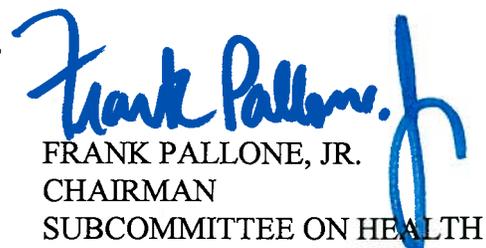
"It is vital that Congress deliver on its pledge to children's health coverage by providing, at a minimum, the full \$50 billion in new funds for SCHIP and Medicaid allowed for in the congressional budget resolution. This level of funding is the minimum amount that will suffice to allow states to sustain their existing SCHIP programs, reach a significant share of the uninsured children already eligible for SCHIP and Medicaid, and support ongoing state efforts to expand coverage. It is imperative that states are provided with a predictable and stable source of funding that enables them to continue to move forward in their effort to cover eligible children."

*-- American Academy of Pediatrics, National Association of Children's Hospitals,
Medicaid Health Plans of America, National Association of Community Health Centers,
and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*

Reauthorizing SCHIP is not part of a left wing conspiracy, as President Bush might have us believe. It is simply the right thing to do. We urge you to consider the importance of covering children for the future and what the SCHIP program can offer to millions of children. We look forward to working with the caucus to get this done.

Sincerely,


JOHN D. DINGELL
CHAIRMAN


FRANK PALLONE, JR.
CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH