

December 12, 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
House Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker, Leader McConnell, Leader Pelosi, and Leader Schumer:


We ask that you make it a priority to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance program (CHIP) as quickly as possible. We believe covering children and pregnant women without disruption is one thing we can all agree on.

For twenty years, this program has successfully provided vital health coverage and care to about nine million children. Without it, access to essential health services like well child exams, asthma medicine, and hospitalizations will be at risk. As health insurance premiums climb at unsustainable rates, this program gives hard-working families access to otherwise unaffordable coverage.

In the absence of Congressional action, we have worked to protect coverage for children and pregnant women in each of our states, but we will need federal support to continue the program. Resources are nearly exhausted and some states already have begun to inform families that their children's coverage may end on January 31.

Since its creation, CHIP has enjoyed strong bipartisan support. We encourage you to work across the aisle to find common ground that will allow this important program to continue and give the families who rely on CHIP the peace of mind of knowing that their children will be able to get the health care they need in the new year.

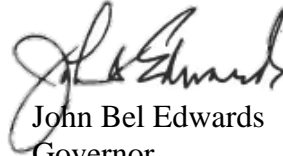
Sincerely,

  
John Hickenlooper  
Governor  
State of Colorado

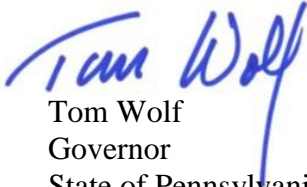
  
John Kasich  
Governor  
State of Ohio



Bill Walker  
Governor  
State of Alaska



John Bel Edwards  
Governor  
State of Louisiana



Tom Wolf  
Governor  
State of Pennsylvania



Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor  
State of New Hampshire



Terence R. McAuliffe  
Governor  
State of Virginia



Charles D. Baker  
Governor  
State of Massachusetts



Steve Bullock  
Governor  
State of Montana



Phil Scott  
Governor  
State of Vermont



Brian Sandoval  
Governor  
State of Nevada



Mark Dayton  
Governor  
State of Minnesota