

September 25, 2007

## Dear Mr. Chairman:

The American Association of School Administrators, representing some 13,000 local school leaders, wishes to express our heartfelt thanks for your leadership in assuring the SCHIP legislation contains the school-based Medicaid claiming rule moratorium.

Because of your efforts, this legislation will provide vital health coverage to the children of poor and working class families.

We, as education leaders, recognize that our nation is better off when our children can come to school healthy and ready to learn. Preventative healthcare and services for sick youngsters contribute to increased attendance, enhanced learning ability and, in the end, a more productive society.

In addition, your inclusion of the moratorium means more school administrators can focus on curriculum and child assessment, as opposed to an unproductive diversion to replace the funds that Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services Rule 2287 would have cut off.

I thank you for your stalwart leadership in assuring a brighter future for children and schools, which are key to a better nation for us all.

Bruce Hunter

Associate Executive Director for Public Policy