



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

September 25, 2007

Dear Representative:

**We are writing as members of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) to urge you to vote in support of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007.**

The CCD is a coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for national public policy that ensures the self determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

This legislation reflects a fiscally-responsible bipartisan compromise that will extend health coverage to several million uninsured low- and moderate-income children. It strengthens the scope of CHIP benefits to ensure parity between physical and mental health benefits. And significantly, this legislation imposes a moratorium on new restrictions in Medicaid rehabilitation and school-based services—stopping the implementation of new rules that could severely restrict access to community mental health services, day habilitation services for people with developmental disabilities, health care services for children receiving foster care, and Medicaid services provided in school settings for children with disabilities. This moratorium gives the Congress the opportunity to grapple with numerous complex policy issues and avoid ill-considered policy changes.

We applaud efforts by the Senate and the House of Representatives to expand health insurance coverage to low- and moderate-income children. In the strongest possible terms, we urge all Members to support this critical legislation.

For further information contact the CCD Health Task Force Co-Chairs: Liz Savage, The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy Disability Policy Collaboration (202-783-2229-[savage@thedpc.org](mailto:savage@thedpc.org)), Kathy McGinley, National Disability Rights Network (202-408-9514, [Kathy.McGinley@ndrn.org](mailto:Kathy.McGinley@ndrn.org) or Peter Thomas, ACCSES, (202-466-6550).

Sincerely,

ACCSES

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities  
American Counseling Association

American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Network of Community Options and Resources  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Therapeutic Recreation Association  
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Children & Adults w/Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)  
Council for Exceptional Children  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund  
Division for Early Children of the Council for Exceptional Children  
Easter Seals  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Helen Keller National Center  
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinator's Association  
Learning Disabilities Association of America  
Mental Health America  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities  
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Disability Rights Network  
National Down Syndrome Society  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives  
National Rehabilitation Association  
National Respite Coalition  
NISH  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
TASH  
The Arc of the United States  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Spinal Association  
World Institute on Disability