

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 27, 2007

Governor Bob Riley  
Alabama

Governor Haley Barbour  
Mississippi

Governor Sarah Palin  
Alaska

Governor Matt Blunt  
Missouri

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
California

Governor David Heineman  
Nebraska

Governor M. Jodi Rell  
Connecticut

Governor James A. Gibbons  
Nevada

Governor Charlie Crist  
Florida

Governor John Hoeven  
North Dakota

Governor Sonny Perdue  
Georgia

Governor Donald L. Carcieri  
Rhode Island

Governor Linda Lingle  
Hawaii

Governor Mark C. Sanford  
South Carolina

Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter  
Idaho

Governor Rick Perry  
Texas

Governor Mitchell Daniels  
Indiana

Governor John Huntsman  
Utah

Governor Ernie Fletcher  
Kentucky

Governor James H. Douglas  
Vermont

Governor Tim Pawlenty  
Minnesota

Governor M. Michael Rounds  
South Dakota

Dear Governor,

As Members of Congress who voted in favor of the reauthorization of the SCHIP program, we urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to contact President Bush to ask him drop his veto threat and sign H.R. 976, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act of 2007.

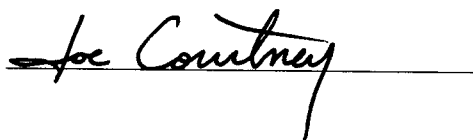
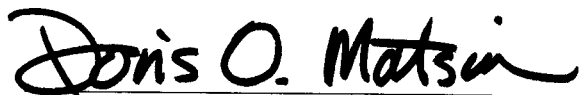
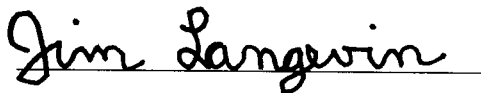
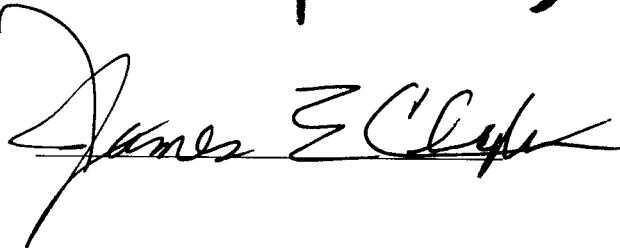
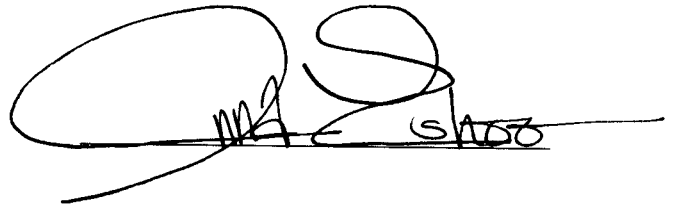
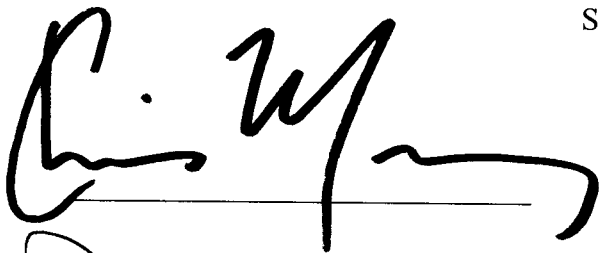
H.R. 976 is bipartisan legislation which renews and improves the CHIP, investing an additional \$35 billion over five years to provide health care coverage for more than 10 million children – preserving coverage for all 6.6 million children currently covered by CHIP and extending coverage to 3.8 million children who are currently uninsured, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. It also provides incentives for states to lower the rate of uninsured children by enrolling eligible children in CHIP and Medicaid, including providing bonus payments. States will receive state-based allotments that are responsive to state demographic and national spending trends. States that face a funding shortfall and meet enrollment goals will receive an adjustment payment to ensure that no child who is eligible for Medicaid or CHIP is denied coverage or placed on a waiting list.

This legislation also replaces the August 17 letter to states from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services which restrained our state's ability to cover children above 250 percent of poverty. While the bill states that it agrees with the President on the importance of ensuring that low-income children have health coverage and taking steps to address substitution of private coverage, it gives states time and assistance in developing and implementing best practices to address substitution of coverage.

Congress passed the reauthorization of SCHIP by a broad, bipartisan margin in both houses. Despite this, the President continues his stubborn insistence on vetoing this crucial legislation. As a Republican Governor you are in a unique position to call on the President and urge him to drop his ill-conceived veto threat.

The time to do so is now.

Sincerely,



Keith Elison

Joseph Sun

Lois Capps

Hank Johnson

Luetta Sanchez

Margie K. Herono

Linda J. Dickey

Sam Farr

Jim W

Hilda L. Solis

Neil Abernethy

E. Perry

Grace S. Napolitano

Gene Amick

Michael W. Wanda

John B. Rasmussen

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Harry A. Wapner

George Miller

Tom Lantz

Bob Filner

Art B-

Lucille Kopyal-Allard

Jan Ann

Ellen Stauscher

Rosal. DeLaurio

Lynn Woesey

Barbara Lee

Laura Richardson

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John Lewis

Adam B. Schiff

Wm. Lacy Clay

Patrick J. Kennedy

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Charles A. Schumer

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