

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1004

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging Congress to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

WHEREAS, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was initially passed in 1997, under a new Title XXI of the Federal Social Security Act, and included ten year authorization and funding; and

WHEREAS, SCHIP was created to provide coverage to uninsured children in families with income too great to qualify for Medicaid, but too little to purchase private or employer-sponsored health insurance; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, SCHIP has succeeded in providing millions of children and youth across the country with access to affordable health care coverage, currently providing health care to more than six million children annually; and

WHEREAS, in South Dakota alone, SCHIP has provided access to health care coverage to more than eleven thousand children in fiscal year 2008; and

WHEREAS, SCHIP is vitally important in preserving child wellness, preventing and treating childhood disease, and reducing overall health care costs; and

WHEREAS, SCHIP is a program in which states and the federal government have worked together to provide health care coverage to children; and

WHEREAS, SCHIP must be reauthorized by Congress for federal funding to continue:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature urges the members of Congress to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program so that the states and the federal government can continue the financial partnership providing access to affordable health care coverage for children, and to reauthorize the program without extraneous provisions that are likely to cause delay.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

January 29, 2009
February 2, 2009

Timothy A. Rave
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Dennis Daugaard
President of the Senate

Trudy Evenstad
Secretary of the Senate