

May 9, 2018

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of 511 national, state, and local organizations dedicated to promoting the health of our nation's children and pregnant women, we write to voice our strong opposition to the White House's proposal to rescind \$7 billion dollars of funding from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This proposal violates the bipartisan budget agreement that Congress and the President reached earlier this year to set funding levels for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 and would put children's access to health insurance coverage in jeopardy. We urge you to reject the proposal and any attempt to reduce government spending on the backs of children's health.

Earlier this year, Congress passed – and the President signed – a law authorizing funding for CHIP for an additional 10 years. In passing the 10-year extension of CHIP, Congress acted on a bipartisan basis to provide stability for the program that states, families, and providers sought. The bills signed by President Trump that extended CHIP for 10 years protect coverage for children, give families peace of mind, and enable states to make investments that strengthen and improve their CHIP programs. Rescinding such a substantial sum from CHIP as is contemplated in the rescissions package would undermine the very program Congress intended to strengthen.

Specifically, the White House is proposing to rescind \$15 billion in previously approved spending, almost half of which would come from two accounts in CHIP, to reduce budget deficits. The proposed cuts would come from cutting \$2 billion from the Child Enrollment Contingency Fund, which provides payments to states if they experience an unexpected surge in enrollment. The fund ensures that eligible children can continue to get covered. The White House also proposes to rescind \$5 billion from the Children's Health Insurance Fund.

While White House officials insist that the CHIP cuts would not harm access to care for children and families, that is simply not the case. Our nation is facing an increasing number of natural disasters, including a devastating hurricane season that has displaced thousands of children and families and an ongoing disaster in Hawaii. Each catastrophe leaves families more vulnerable and more likely to qualify for CHIP. In addition to natural disasters, the Child Enrollment Contingency Fund provides states needed protection and security should their CHIP enrollment suddenly spike due to an economic recession or a public health crisis.

The nine million children and families who depend on CHIP have already faced months of uncertainty, when its funding expired before Congress took long-overdue action to extend CHIP funding for ten years. After breathing a short sigh of relief, however, the long-term stability and protection these families fought to ensure is once again in jeopardy. Our organizations urge you to protect children and families, and to reject any proposed cuts to the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
The Actors Fund
ADAP Advocacy Association
AFL-CIO
African American Health Alliance
AFSCME

Afterschool Alliance
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
AIDS United
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
America's Essential Hospitals
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association on Health & Disability
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Surgeons
American Dance Therapy Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Muslim Health Professionals
American Network of Oral Health Coalitions
American Nurses Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Thoracic Society
The Arc of the United States
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Association for Community Affiliated Plans
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of School Business Officials International
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Blythedale Children's Hospital
CAEAR Coalition
Cancer Support Community
Center for Autism and Related Disorders
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Medicare Advocacy
Center for Public Interest Law
Center for Public Representation
Center for the Study of Social Policy
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
Child Care Aware of America
Child Welfare League of America

Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Children's Defense Fund
Children's Dental Health Project
Children's Health Fund
Children's Home Society of America
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Leadership Council
Children's Mental Health Network
The Children's Partnership
Circle of Parents, Inc.
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition on Human Needs
Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning
Committee for Children
Community Access National Network (CANN)
Community Catalyst
Council for Exceptional Children
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Drug Policy Alliance
Easterseals
El Centro del Inmigrante
End AIDS Now
Epilepsy Foundation
Every Child Matters
Families USA
Family Focused Treatment Association
Family Voices
Feminist Majority
First Focus Campaign for Children
Forum for Youth Investment
Futures Without Violence
Health Care for America Now
HIV Medicine Association
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America
UAW
The Jewish Federations of North America
Jon C Burr Foundation
Justice in Aging
Lakeshore Foundation
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Legal Action Center
March of Dimes
Mi Familia Vota
MomsRising
MSDA
NAACP
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors

National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of County Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Directors
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
National Coalition on Health Care
National Consumers League
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Council of Jewish Women
National Education Association
National Health Law Program
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Immigration Law Center
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Physicians Alliance
National Recreation and Park Association
National Respite Coalition
National WIC Association
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
Nemours Children's Health System
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Nurse-Family Partnership
Oral Health America
Partnership for America's Children
Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
Pediatric Policy Council
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Public Advocacy for Kids
Public Citizen
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition
Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We Need
Religious Institute
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
School Social Work Association of America
School-Based Health Alliance
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Southern HIV/AIDS Strategy initiative

Treatment Action Group
Trust for America's Health
UnidosUS
Union for Reform Judaism
United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
United Methodist Women
United Way Worldwide
W. Haywood Burns Institute
Wolfson Children's Hospital
Young Invincibles
YWCA USA
ZERO TO THREE

STATE, TERRITORY AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama

AIDS Alabama
Voices For Alabama's Children

Alaska

Alaska Children's Trust

Arizona

Mi Familia Vota
Native American Connections
Raising Special Kids

Arkansas

Office of Oral Health Arkansas Department of Health

California

Alameda Health Consortium
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles
California Children's Hospital Association
California Dental Association
California Medical Association
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California School Nurses Organization
California School-Based Health Alliance
California WIC Association
CaliforniaHealth+ Advocates
Children Now
Children's Defense Fund - California
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)
Community Health Councils
Cope Family Center
County Health Executives Association of California
El Concilio
Family Voices of California

Family Voices of California
First 5 Napa County
First 5 Santa Cruz County
Give for a Smile
Health Access California
Healthier Kids Foundation
Inland Empire Coverage & Health Initiative
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford/Stanford Children's Health
PDI Surgery Center
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention
Results California
RESULTS Sacramento Delta Area
RESULTS San Francisco
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Services, Immigrant Rights, and Education Network (SIREN)
Street Level Health Project
The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
United Ways of California

Colorado

Center for Health Progress
Children's Hospital Colorado
Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care
Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council
Colorado Center on Law and Policy
Colorado Children's Campaign
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
Colorado School Medicaid Consortium
Colorado's Community Safety Net Clinics
Delta Dental of Colorado
Denver Health and Hospital Authority
Every Child Pediatrics
Gary Community Investments
Oral Health Colorado
RESULTS Colorado
Stahlman Disability Consulting, LLC
Support Jeffco Kids
Tri-County Health Department

Connecticut

Connecticut Association for Human Services
Connecticut Voices for Children

Florida

Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc.
Oral Health Florida
The Children's Campaign
Voices for Florida

Georgia

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Georgia Watch
Georgians for a Healthy Future
Voices for Georgia's Children

Hawaii

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Idaho

Idaho Voices for Children

Illinois

Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Citizen Action/Illinois
EverThrive Illinois
DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform
Family Voices of Illinois
Health Justice Project, Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
Indivisible - Randolph County
Indivisible Illinois
Indivisible Peoria Area
Indivisible Wrigleyville
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Legal Council for Health Justice
Voices for Illinois Children

Iowa

Child and Family Policy Center

Kansas

Alliance for a Healthy Kansas
Kansas Action for Children
Kansas Appleseed
Kansas Association of Community Action Programs
KS Head Start Association
Oral Health Kansas
United Community Services of Johnson County

Kentucky

Conover & Conover CPAs, PSC
Kentucky Voices for Health
Kentucky Youth Advocates

Louisiana

504HealthNet
Agenda for Children
Louisiana Budget Project
Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families

Maine

Maine Children's Alliance
Maine Equal Justice Partners
Maine People's Alliance

Maryland

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative Education Fund, Inc.
Maryland Dental Action Coalition

Massachusetts

Association for Behavioral Healthcare
Children's League of Massachusetts
Children's Mental Health Campaign
Franciscan Children's
Health Care For All
Health Law Advocates
Massachusetts Association for Mental Health
Massachusetts Dental Hygienists' Association
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Massachusetts Pediatric Home Nursing Campaign
RESULTS Greater Boston
The Forsyth Institute

Michigan

HIV AIDS Alliance of Michigan
JHM Consulting, LLC
Kent County Oral Health Coalition
Lansing Area AIDS Network
Michigan Association of Intermediate School Superintendents
Michigan Association of School Boards
Michigan Association of School Superintendents
Michigan League for Public Policy
Michigan Oral Health Coalition
Middle Cities Education Association
New Covenant of Peace Church
Northern Michigan Oral Health Coalition
RESULTS Ann Arbor
RESULTS Detroit
The MAN Network
United Health Organization

Minnesota

Apple Tree Dental

Mississippi

Ascension Lutheran Church
Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities
Mississippi Center for Justice
Mississippi Human Services Coalition
Mississippi Rising Coalition
National Alliance on Mental Illness - Mississippi

Missouri

Kids Win Missouri
RESULTS Kansas City

Montana

Montana KIDS COUNT
RESULTS Missoula

Nebraska

Voices for Children in Nebraska

Nevada

Children's Advocacy Alliance
Community Health Alliance
Foundation for Positively Kids
Immunize Nevada
Indivisible Northern Nevada
Nevada Alliance for Healthcare Security
Women's March Reno

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Family Voices
New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

New Jersey

Advocates for Children of New Jersey
Family Voices New Jersey
First Children Services
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
New Jersey Citizen Action
New Jersey Oral Health Coalition
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

New Mexico

Equality New Mexico
New Mexico Voices for Children

New York

Action Together Long Island
Adhikaar
Association of Perinatal Networks
Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network
Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY
Children's Defense Fund - New York
Chinatown Manpower Project
Chinese-American Planning Council
Citizen Action of NY
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
Community Service Society of New York
Fiscal Policy Institute

Health Care For All New York
Healthy Capital District Initiative
Healthy Community Alliance
Hunger Action Network of New York State
Korean Community Services of Metropolitan NY
Long Island Activists
Long Island Progressive Coalition
Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network
Make the Road New York
Medicaid Matters NY
Mekong NYC
Mental Health Association in New York State, Inc.
Metro New York Health Care for All
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council
New York Immigration Coalition
New York School-Based Health Alliance
New York School-Based Health Foundation
New York State Council of Churches
New York University
North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council, Inc.
Public Health Solutions
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
Show Up Long Island
South Asian Council for Social Services
South Asian Youth Action
Staten Island Alliance for North Shore Children and Families
Suffolk Progressives
TSD Media
Westchester Children's Association
Womankind
Yeled V'Yalda E.C.C

North Carolina

Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC
Equality North Carolina
NC Child
RESULTS-Asheville NC

North Dakota

Ehrens Consulting
Family Voices of ND

Ohio

Akron Children's Hospital
Children's Defense Fund-Ohio
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
CWRU Schubert Center for Child Studies
Dayton Children's Hospital
Harmony Project
Juvenile Justice Coalition (OH)
Merrick House Neighborhood Center

Nationwide Children's Hospital
Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies
Ohio Children's Hospital Association
Ohio Federation of Teachers
PCSAO
Policy Matters Ohio
Public Children Services Association of Ohio
RESULTS Ohio
Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio
Voices for Ohio's Children

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy

Oregon

Children First for Oregon
RESULTS Corvallis

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children
Public Citizens for Children and Youth
RCPA

Rhode Island

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

South Carolina

Palmetto Project, Inc.
SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center
United Way of the Midlands

Tennessee

Niswonger Children's Hospital
Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
Tennessee Health Care Campaign
Tennessee Justice Center

Texas

Center for Public Policy Priorities
Children's Defense Fund – Texas
Children's Hospital Association of Texas
Clarity Child Guidance Center
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
CommuniCare Health Centers
Driscoll Health Plan
Easterseals Central Texas
Easterseals Greater Houston
Easterseals North Texas
Easterseals Rio Grande Valley
Equality Texas

Healthy Futures of Texas
La Frontera Ministries International Inc.
Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.
Methodist Healthcare System - San Antonio
National Association of Social Workers - Texas Chapter
Our Medicaid Matters
Personal Attendant Coalition of Texas
Proyecto Azteca
RESULTS Austin
RESULTS Houston US Poverty
Texas AFL-CIO
Texas Children's Hospital
Texas Doctors for Social Responsibility
Texas Parent to Parent
Texas Pediatric Society
The Center for Health Care Services
The Health Collaborative
TX Occupational Therapy Assoc
United Ways of Texas
Voices for Children of San Antonio
Women's March of Houston and Texas

Utah

RESULTS Utah
Utah County Department of Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment
Utah Health Policy Project
Voices for Utah Children

Vermont

Dental Health
Vermont Family Network
Voices for Vermont's Children

Virginia

Champions For Children: Prevent Child Abuse Hampton Roads
Child Health Investment Partnership
Families Forward Virginia
Family and Children's Trust Fund of VA
Family Lifeline
Healthy Families Northern Shenandoah Valley
National Alliance on Mental Illness of Virginia
Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic
The Improvement Association
Virginia Poverty Law Center
Voices for Virginia's Children

Washington

Parent Trust for Washington Children
RESULTS Bremerton
RESULTS Olympia
RESULTS Seattle

RESULTS Tri-Cities
Seattle Children's

West Virginia

Children's Home Society of West Virginia
Partners in Community Outreach
West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy
West Virginia Kids' Health Partnership
West Virginia Medicaid Coalition
West Virginians for Affordable Health Care
West Virginians Together for Medicaid

Wisconsin

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Kids Forward
Milwaukee Area Health Education Center
Wisconsin Hospital Association

Wyoming

UPLIFT