

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

SCR 4

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5 By: Senators Faris, Horn, Bookout, Broadway, Crumbly, B. Johnson, Steele, J. Taylor
6 By: Representatives Cooper, Key, Burris, Cook, D. Creekmore, S. Dobbins, Everett, Flowers, S. Prater,
7 Norton, Reep, Saunders, Sumpter, L. Smith, J. Roebuck, Webb, Blount, Berry, Hardy, Adcock, Davis,
8 Edwards, W. Lewellen, Ragland, E. Brown, Chesterfield, George, Gaskill, Maloch, R. Green

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11 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

12 CONCERNING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE STATE
13 CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

14

15 **Subtitle**

16 CONCERNING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE
17 STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE
18 PROGRAM.

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21 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly regard the health of our
22 children to be of paramount importance to families in our state; and

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24 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly regard poor health as a
25 threat to the educational achievement and social and psychological well being
26 of the children of our state; and

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28 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly consider protecting the
29 health of our children to be essential to the well-being of our youngest
30 citizens and the quality of life in our state; and

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32 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly consider the Arkansas
33 State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which began in 1998 with a
34 small Medicaid expansion and, as of June 30, 2006, has enrolled nearly 66,000
35 children meeting the definition of an SCHIP targeted low income child, to be
36 an integral part of the arrangements for health benefits for the children of



1 the State of Arkansas; and

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3 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly recognize the value of the
4 Arkansas SCHIP program in preserving child wellness, preventing and treating
5 childhood disease, improving health outcomes, and reducing overall health
6 costs; and

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8 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly consider the federal
9 funding available for the Arkansas SCHIP program to be indispensable to
10 providing health benefits for children of modest means,

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12 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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15 THAT the Eighty-Sixth General Assembly urges the members of Arkansas'
16 delegation to the United States Congress to ensure that the Congress timely
17 reauthorizes the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to assure
18 federal funding for the Arkansas State Children's Health Insurance Program.

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly urges the Governor to
21 use his best efforts to work with the Arkansas delegation to ensure that
22 SCHIP is reauthorized in a timely manner.

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly proclaims that all
25 components of state government should work together with educators, health
26 care providers, social workers, and parents to ensure that all available
27 public and private assistance for providing health benefits to uninsured
28 children in this State be used to the maximum extent possible.

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly urges the Governor to
31 use his best efforts to provide meaningful assistance to help identify and
32 enroll children who qualify for Medicaid or the Arkansas State Children's
33 Health Insurance Program.