



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

December 8, 2017

Dear Michigan Congressional Delegation:

On September 30, 2017, funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) expired. States, including Michigan, rely on the CHIP program and its federal match to provide health insurance for approximately 9 million children.

Since its inception in 1997, CHIP has received bipartisan support and is a tremendous success story. It has provided health care security to children of families whose incomes are modest, but do not qualify for Medicaid.

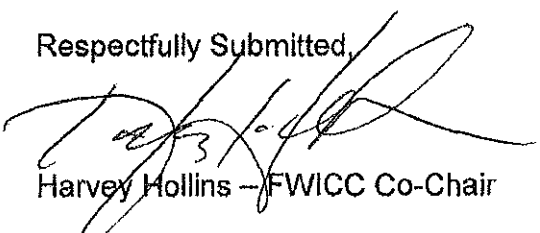
Before the end of this year, Michigan must begin sending notices to MiChild families (Michigan's CHIP program is MiChild) notifying them that their health insurance may be eliminated. Approximately 116,000 Michigan children rely on CHIP for their health coverage - representing children in every Michigan county.

As members of the Flint Water Interagency Coordinating Committee (FWICC), a committee established by a Governor's Executive Order in response to the Flint Water Crisis to coordinate the recovery, we are especially concerned about the implications of CHIP's non-reauthorization. On December 1, 2017, the members of FWICC voted affirmatively in strong support of the reauthorization of CHIP.

In addition to providing health care for Michigan's children, CHIP is playing a central role in Michigan's efforts to eliminate ongoing lead exposure. In 2016, CMS approved an innovative waiver via CHIP SPA funds that affords Michigan approximately \$25 million per year for the next five years to address environmental lead exposure under the MDHHS Lead Safe Home Program. A portion of these dollars (\$8 million) has also been allocated to Flint's lead pipe replacement. It is our understanding that this funding would be seriously at risk if CHIP is not reauthorized.

FWICC members strongly encourage the reauthorization of CHIP. It is in the best interest of all Michigan children and failure to promptly reauthorize will have a particularly serious impact on Flint kids.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Harvey Hollins --FWICC Co-Chair

  
Capt. Chris Kelenske -- FWICC Co-Chair

Cc: Gov. Rick Snyder  
FWICC Members