

HM 1727

2004

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
 3 Congress to extend the State Children's Health Insurance
 4 Program and appropriate sufficient funds to allow each
 5 state, using an appropriate match, to extend health care
 6 coverage to every child in America.

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 8 WHEREAS, Florida is the fourth most populous state, with
 9 16.4 million residents, and

10 WHEREAS, more than 2 million Floridians live in poverty and
 11 approximately 2.8 million Floridians have no health insurance
 12 whatsoever, and

13 WHEREAS, the Kaiser Family Foundation reports that 17
 14 percent of Florida children are currently uninsured, and

15 WHEREAS, it is a moral incumbency that every Floridian,
 16 especially children, have access to quality, affordable health
 17 care, and

18 WHEREAS, more than 250,000 children are currently insured
 19 through the Florida KidCare program, yet hundreds of thousands
 20 of children continue to go without quality health care, and

21 WHEREAS, the Florida KidCare program is funded in large
 22 part by federal contributions from the State Children's Health
 23 Insurance Program, and

24 WHEREAS, the State Children's Health Insurance Program is
 25 set to expire in federal fiscal year 2007, unless reauthorized
 26 by the United States Congress, and

27 WHEREAS, the Florida KidCare program, with additional long-
 28 term funding from the United States Congress through the State
 29 Children's Health Insurance Program, has the potential of
 30 expanding health insurance, NOW, THEREFORE,

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32 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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34 That the Congress of the United States is urged to pass
35 legislation during the 108th Congress to extend the State
36 Children's Health Insurance Program beyond federal fiscal year
37 2007.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United
39 States is requested to appropriate sufficient funds to allow
40 each state, using an appropriate match, to extend health care
41 coverage to every child in America.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
43 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
44 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
45 United States House of Representatives, to the Majority and
46 Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and the United
47 States House of Representatives, and to each Member of the
48 Florida delegation to the 108th United States Congress.