

HM 889

2007

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
3 Congress to reauthorize the State Children's Health
4 Insurance Program to continue to provide federal funding
5 for the Florida Kidcare program.
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7 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida regards
8 the health of children to be of paramount importance to families
9 in the state, and

10 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida regards
11 poor child health as a threat to the educational achievement and
12 social and psychological well-being of the children of the State
13 of Florida, and

14 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida considers
15 protecting the health of children to be essential to the well-
16 being of Florida's youngest citizens and the quality of life in
17 the state, and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida considers
19 the Florida Kidcare program, which was created in 1998 and
20 currently has 202,214 children enrolled in the program, to be an
21 integral part of the arrangements for health benefits for the
22 children of the State of Florida, and

23 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida recognizes
24 the value of the Florida Kidcare program in preserving child
25 wellness, preventing and treating childhood disease, improving
26 health outcomes, and reducing overall health costs, and

27 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida considers
28 the federal funding available for the Florida Kidcare program to

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29 | be indispensable to providing health benefits for children of
30 | modest means, 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 Legislature urges the members of the Florida
35 | delegation to the United States Congress to ensure that the
36 | Congress reauthorizes the State Children's Health Insurance
37 | Program (SCHIP) to continue to provide federal funding for the
38 | Florida Kidcare program.

39 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
40 | Governor to work with the Florida delegation to ensure that
41 | SCHIP is reauthorized in a timely manner.

42 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
43 | Governor to provide the assistance necessary to identify and
44 | enroll children who qualify for Medicaid or the Florida Kidcare
45 | program.

46 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature proclaims that
47 | all components of state government should work together with
48 | educators, health care providers, social workers, and parents to
49 | ensure that all available public and private assistance for
50 | providing health benefits to uninsured children in this state be
51 | used to the maximum extent possible.

52 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
53 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
54 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
55 | United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
56 | the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.