

## 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 1,388,520 children enrolled in the program, to be  
21 an 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.