

# Agenda Item 2A: Federal Advocacy Letters

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, Chairman  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
SD-219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to urge you to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

CHIP was last fully reauthorized in 2009, through September, 2013. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) extended authorization for CHIP funding for two years through September 2015, while instituting a maintenance of effort requirement for states to keep children covered under the program through 2019. If funding for CHIP is not reauthorized before it expires on September 30, it will cause a devastating loss of coverage for many children both locally and nationwide, as they may not be eligible for ACA subsidies and unable to afford more expensive coverage.

Please work with the members of your committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP through 2019 as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

TPW:jaw

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pallone:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to urge you to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please work with the members of your committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP through 2019 as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to urge you to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please work with the members of your committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP through 2019 as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Ronald Wyden  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
SD-219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to urge you to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please work with the members of your committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP through 2019 as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

TPW:jaw

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
United States Senate  
SH-112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

I have sent the enclosed letters to Chairman Hatch and Ranking Minority Member Wyden of the Senate Finance Committee, asking them to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please urge your colleagues who serve on the committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

TPW:jaw

Enclosures

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Lois Capps  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2231 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Lois:

I have sent the enclosed letters to Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, asking them to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please urge your colleagues who serve on the committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

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Enclosures

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
SH-331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I have sent the enclosed letters to Chairman Hatch and Ranking Minority Member Wyden of the Senate Finance Committee, asking them to take action on legislation to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP funding enables children in families with incomes up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level to be covered under Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). Currently, it provides 11,000 children in Santa Barbara County with comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage for a modest monthly premium and co-pays. It also provides benefits for certain pregnant women to receive health care during their pregnancy.

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Please urge your colleagues who serve on the committee to take action to reauthorize CHIP as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

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