WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:

- Medicaid and CHIP provide health coverage for nearly 4 out of 10 children in the U.S.
- Studies show that children on CHIP receive more comprehensive benefits at lower costs than with private health insurance.
- Improved health among children translates into educational gains, with positive implications for both individual economic well-being and overall economic productivity.

CHIP is authorized by Congress to operate until October 1, 2019.

However, legislative action is needed to continue funding for CHIP beyond September 2017.

Failure to extend CHIP funding could result in coverage losses for millions of children and increased financial pressure for states that may lead to reductions in eligibility and benefits.

Efforts to support CHIP should not reduce funding for other health care programs.

The nation’s uninsured rate for children is a record low of 5% due in part to Medicaid and CHIP coverage.

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