

December 5, 2007

Message to Congress: Stand Tall for America's Children

The State Children's Health Insurance Program has been resoundingly successful in covering tens of thousands of Oregon children from working families who lack employer-provided health insurance and cannot afford private coverage. Still, over 100,000 Oregon children remain uninsured and vulnerable.

With the support of nearly every member of Oregon's congressional delegation, Congress recently approved a strong, bipartisan bill to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program to cover 10 million children. However, its enactment was blocked by the President. It is now up to Congress to keep faith with America's children.

We, the undersigned organizations, call on Congress to enact without delay a five-year reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program in a manner that reaches out to America's vulnerable kids and provides health coverage to at least 10 million children. America's kids deserve no less.

Advocacy Coalition of Seniors and People with Disabilities
American Federation of Teachers-Oregon
Blue Sage Ministries of Harney County
Children First for Oregon
Coastal Progressives
Community Action Partnership of Oregon
Community Health Advocates of Oregon
Community Health Partnership: Oregon's Public Health Institute
Corvallis United Church of Christ Just Peace Committee
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Gray Panthers of Oregon
Health Care Caucus of the Democratic Party of Oregon
Human Services Coalition of Oregon
Lane Independent Living Alliance
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Oregon
National Council of Jewish Women, Portland Section
Northwest Federation of Community Organizations
Older Women's League, Portland Chapter
Oregon Action
Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
Oregon Center for Christian Values
Oregon Center for Public Policy
Oregon Health Action Campaign
Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force

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Oregon Medical Association
Oregon Pediatric Society
Oregon Primary Care Association
Oregon School Based Health Care Network
Oregon Small Business for Responsible Leadership
Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens
Oregonians for Health Security
Overall Organizer, LLC
Parkrose Community United Church of Christ
ROSE Community Development
SEIU Oregon State Council
Social Justice Alliance
The Gender Center Inc.
United Seniors of Oregon
Woodburn Pediatric Clinic