



Children's Alliance applauds U.S. Senate for Renewing support for Apple Health for Kids

Bipartisan vote demonstrates strong support for CHIP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

CONTACT: Adam Hyla E. Holdorf, Communications Director, (206) 326-9964

SEATTLE—Advocates for children and families in Washington applauded the U.S. Senate for passing a bill yesterday that extends funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for two years.

The vote follows passage of identical legislation in the House. It demonstrates that members of Congress overwhelmingly support the CHIP program and understand it is vital to keeping kids across the country healthy.

“This vote demonstrates the overwhelming popularity of the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for getting kids the health coverage they need to succeed,” said Jon Gould, deputy director of the Children's Alliance.

Apple Health for Kids is Washington state's affordable, comprehensive, preventive health coverage plan for children. CHIP, which provides some of the federal funding for Apple Health for Kids, has a long history of bipartisan support, providing coverage for children in families that don't have access to affordable health care. As a result of CHIP's implementation, coverage rates for kids across the country are at a historic high of close to 93 percent.

The Senate's vote secures millions in new federal dollars for Washington state.

“CHIP is a life-changer for 44,000 Washington children,” said Gould. “This vote demonstrates that Congress understands how critical this program is for millions of families. We will look to federal lawmakers to continue to demonstrate their support in 2017 when the program is up for renewal.”

###

The Children's Alliance (www.childrensalliance.org) is a statewide public policy advocacy organization that works at the state and federal level to ensure that all children have what they need to thrive.