

TEXAS CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS LEADERS SUPPORT CHIP RESTORATION

Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce

“Texas should fund the Texas Medicaid/CHIP programs at a level that maximizes the availability of federal matching funds and reduces the frequency for families to reapply from the current six months back to every twelve months. We believe the Texas Legislature should implement policies to enroll every eligible child in Medicaid/CHIP. If low-income individuals are not covered under the CHIP and Medicaid programs, the cost of care is shifted to Texas residents and businesses in the form of higher hospital district taxes, higher private insurance premiums or an increase in other local healthcare dollars.”

Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce

“High quality medical care is a key component in recruiting businesses and talent to the greater Dallas area. However, if current trends continue, access to healthcare will decline and costs to business will increase. To ensure our region remains competitive, the Greater Dallas Chamber advocates programs that enhance the education, research and patient care missions of our region’s health care providers, its health science universities, and affiliated teaching hospitals. The Greater Dallas Chamber thereby urges the Texas Legislature to contain the cost of healthcare to business by: fully restoring Medicaid/CHIP rates, proper eligibility requirements and funding for caseload projections at levels that maximize federal matching funds.”

Greater Houston Partnership

“With almost 1.4 million children in Texas uninsured, and over half of those eligible for either CHIP or Medicaid, we must make every reasonable effort to find coverage. Currently, we are missing a cost effective opportunity to enroll children from eligible families in either Medicaid or CHIP. Our federal government provides a generous matching program to help us provide coverage that we are failing to tap under present eligibility and enrollment standards.”

Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

“The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce supports legislative efforts to significantly improve Texas’ high percentage of uninsured, funding the Texas Medicaid/CHIP programs to maximize federal matching funds, policies to enroll every eligible child in Medicaid/CHIP and Medicaid provider rates reaching parity with Medicare payment rates.”

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

“As a matter of simple fiscal conservatism, I hope Texas will, in the future, take full advantage of available federal matching funds to bolster our state health care system and relieve increasing pressure on taxpayers who fund county hospitals. CHIP, given the available match, makes sense for our children’s health and economic sense for our taxpayers.”