

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Carter, Gordly, Kruse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Courtney
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/4, 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to reauthorize Oregon State Children's Health Insurance Program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Governor's Recommended Budget projects 48,000 children using program in 2007-2009 biennium
- Oregon currently allowed to carry federal funds forward to future fiscal years

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Urges Congress to continue to allow Oregon the ability to carry forward future fiscal years' unexpected federal funds.

BACKGROUND: The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was created by Congress in 1997 and is funded by both the federal government and the states. The program is designed to help states initiate and expand the provision of child health insurance to uninsured, low-income children.

SCHIP is administered by the states which have three options for providing SCHIP coverage. They can create separate SCHIP programs, expand eligibility for benefits under the state's Medicaid plan (a Medicaid SCHIP program) or use both approaches in combination.

Within federal guidelines, states determine their SCHIP program(s) design, eligibility rules, benefits packages, payment levels and administrative and operating procedures.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program is set to expire September 30, 2007 and the program is facing a funding shortfall.