## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 560

Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, CONKLIN, DEAN, BIZZARRO, SIMS, McCARTER, KINSEY, FRANKEL, PASHINSKI, THOMAS, DRISCOLL, SCHLOSSBERG, LONGIETTI, RABB, YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, SAMUELSON, D. MILLER, DAVIS, DAVIDSON, V. BROWN, ROZZI, O'BRIEN, CALTAGIRONE, J. HARRIS, DeLUCA, READSHAW, ROEBUCK, GOODMAN, HILL-EVANS, D. COSTA, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, CHARLTON, FREEMAN, IRVIN, WARREN, MATZIE, DeLISSIO, KORTZ, KRUEGER-BRANEKY, SCHWEYER, COMITTA, DEASY, CEPHAS, RAVENSTAHL AND DALEY, OCTOBER 16, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, OCTOBER 16, 2017

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging the President of the United States and Congress to
  - reauthorize funding for the Children's Health Insurance
- 3 Program.

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- 4 WHEREAS, The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) was
- 5 established in 1997, based on Pennsylvania's model, to deliver
- 6 Federal matching funds to states to provide low-cost health
- 7 insurance to children up to 19 years of age who are uninsured
- 8 and not eligible for medical assistance; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Today, 9 million children in the United States are
- 10 enrolled in CHIP, 176,667 of whom reside in Pennsylvania as of
- 11 September 2017; and
- 12 WHEREAS, CHIP protects and promotes the health and welfare of
- 13 low-income children, ensuring health care coverage for an array
- 14 of services, including routine checkups, emergency visits,
- 15 immunizations, laboratory and x-ray services, prescriptions and

- 1 dental and vision care, among others; and
- 2 WHEREAS, CHIP helps prevent illness and treat childhood
- 3 diseases, protecting the lives of ailing children and the health
- 4 of the general public as well; and
- 5 WHEREAS, For tens of thousands of struggling families in
- 6 Pennsylvania, CHIP is a low-cost option to make sure their
- 7 children have access to quality health care services; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Federal funding for CHIP was last reauthorized in
- 9 2015 and expired on September 30, 2017; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Without Congressional action, Federal funding
- 11 allocated to Pennsylvania for CHIP participants is projected to
- 12 be exhausted by February 2018, leaving millions of children
- 13 without coverage and limiting their access to care, while
- 14 simultaneously burdening families financially and placing the
- 15 public's health at risk; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
- 17 Pennsylvania urge the President of the United States and
- 18 Congress to reauthorize funding for the Children's Health
- 19 Insurance Program to ensure Federal funding for Pennsylvania's
- 20 Children's Health Insurance Program; and be it further
- 21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
- 22 the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the
- 23 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
- 24 Representatives and each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.