

By: Delisi

H.C.R. No. 57

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Federal funding for the State Children's Health
2 Insurance Program (SCHIP), enacted in 1997 by the United States
3 Congress, is provided through state-specific, annual allotments;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Several states have been unable to use all of their
6 allotments, while other states spent all available funds; and

7 WHEREAS, Absent a statutory change, states with excess funds
8 from prior years would lose millions in funding and put underserved
9 children's health in jeopardy; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Texas's two-year appropriations cycle
11 delayed the initiation of the SCHIP program, presenting barriers to
12 the full utilization of early-year SCHIP allotments; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Texas began the 2002-2003 biennium
14 enrolling more children in SCHIP faster than any other state in the
15 country; and

16 WHEREAS, The State of Texas, specifically, stands to lose
17 \$248 million in unspent SCHIP funds; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
19 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to enact
20 legislation amending Title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend
21 the availability of allotments for fiscal years 1998 through 2001
22 under the State Children's Health Insurance Program; and, be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official

1 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, the
2 speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the
3 senate of the United States Congress, and all the members of the
4 Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this
5 resolution be officially entered into the Congressional Record of
6 the United States of America.