

By: Coleman

H.C.R. No. 219

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to
2 recognize "Cover the Uninsured Week 2007" and declare April 24
3 through 29, 2007, as "Cover the Uninsured Week 2007" at the State
4 Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, "Cover the Uninsured Week 2007" is being
6 commemorated across the nation to demonstrate broad support for the
7 reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program
8 (SCHIP) and the need to cover the millions of uninsured children in
9 America; and

10 WHEREAS, Created 10 years ago by congress to provide health
11 coverage for children living in families earning too much to
12 qualify for Medicaid but not enough to afford private insurance,
13 SCHIP has significantly reduced the rate of uninsured children; and

14 WHEREAS, Since its implementation in Texas in 1997, the
15 percentage of uninsured Texas children has dropped significantly;
16 these young Texans now have greater access to a doctor when they are
17 sick and are more likely to receive treatment and preventive
18 screening to remain healthy, avoiding more costly medical
19 interventions later in life; and

20 WHEREAS, Even so, it is estimated that nine million children
21 in the United States remain eligible for SCHIP but are not covered,
22 and the number of Texas children who are eligible but not yet
23 receiving SCHIP coverage is 689,000, after adjusting for
24 undocumented children; and

1 WHEREAS, The SCHIP block grant is scheduled to sunset in
2 August 2007, and congress is currently preparing to consider
3 reauthorization of the program; in light of its tremendous success
4 to date, but recognizing its continuing necessity, "Cover the
5 Uninsured Week 2007" comes at a perfect time to demonstrate to
6 congress that the country is eager for the reauthorization of
7 SCHIP, and it is fitting that the Texas Legislature affirm its
8 support at this time; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby recognize "Cover the Uninsured Week 2007" and declare April
11 24 through 29, 2007, as "Cover the Uninsured Week 2007" at the State
12 Capitol.