

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 2137

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Keeping Texas children and youth healthy ensures a  
2 strong future for the Lone Star State, and the CHIP program promotes  
3 health in children through preventative care, regular check-ups,  
4 immunizations, and other critical services; and

5           WHEREAS, The federal government created the State Children's  
6 Health Insurance Program in 1997 to provide health coverage to  
7 children in uninsured families who earn too much to qualify for  
8 Medicaid but too little to afford private health coverage; and

9           WHEREAS, The 76th Texas Legislature created CHIP in 1999 as a  
10 statewide program for children in families earning less than 200  
11 percent of the federal poverty level and who otherwise would not  
12 have health care coverage; CHIP began serving the state's children  
13 in April of the following year; and

14           WHEREAS, The program provides young Texans with access to a  
15 range of affordable medical services, among them doctor and dental  
16 visits, vaccinations, hospital care, mental health treatment,  
17 vision care, and lab tests, as well as prescription drugs and  
18 medical supplies; moreover, Texas CHIP covers treatment for special  
19 needs, including preexisting conditions; and

20           WHEREAS, The state's CHIP perinatal program is for residents  
21 who are pregnant and unable to afford or receive other health  
22 coverage and offers prenatal care, hospital deliveries, postnatal  
23 care, and check-ups and vaccines for infants; and

24           WHEREAS, Since the inception of Texas CHIP, the state has

1 provided access to health services for nearly one million more  
2 children than had access just over a decade ago; today, Texas CHIP  
3 provides comprehensive, affordable health coverage to meet the  
4 medical, dental, visual, and mental health needs of nearly 500,000  
5 children; and

6 WHEREAS, Health care is essential to the development and  
7 growth of children and youth, and Texas CHIP contributes  
8 tremendously to the peace of mind of hardworking parents throughout  
9 the state; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 10th anniversary of Texas CHIP  
12 and commend all those involved in overseeing and administering the  
13 program.