

City of Chicago

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet



R2016-266

Meeting Date:

Sponsor(s):

Type:

Title:

4/13/2016

Ramirez-Rosa (35) Solis (25) Villegas (36) Lopez (15) Santiago (31) Munoz (22) Reboyras (30) Sadlowski Garza (10) Moreno (1) Cardenas (12) Mendoza (Clerk) Maldonado (26) Resolution

Call for Governor Rauner and the Illinois State Legislature to approve House Bill 5736 extending sunset provision of Covering All Kids

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is proud to be one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world, where one-out-of-five of the city's residents was born outside of the United States; and

WHEREAS, With residents from more than 140 countries and more than 100 languages spoken in our city, Chicago is truly a city of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, The people of Chicago have a long history of opening their arms and homes to the vulnerable and disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago has been built on the strength of its immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS, The Covering All Kids Health Insurance Act ("Covering All Kids") provides access to healthcare to 41,000 low-income Illinois children, including low-income citizens and immigrant children; and

WHEREAS, Covering All Kids improves access to preventive and primary care and protects against communicable diseases making our communities healthier; and

WHEREAS, Covering All Kids has resulted in the state of Illinois having the second best record in the nation for providing health insurance to Latino children at 95 percent coverage; and

WHEREAS, Covering All Kids has resulted in the state of Illinois having one of the highest rates of health coverage for all children in the nation, at 96 percent coverage; and

WHEREAS, In 2006 Covering All Kids was passed with a unanimous bi-partisan vote in the Illinois House, and has since enjoyed the support of both Democratic and Republican Governors; and

WHEREAS, Children with health insurance demonstrate positive education outcomes, reducing high school drop out rates, increasing college attainment rates, and reducing absence from school due to illness; and

WHEREAS, Access to healthcare for all children reduces or ends the cost of treating uninsured children in hospitals or institutions, especially costs that are avoidable with good preventive care; and

WHEREAS, Covering All kids is fiscally prudent, as it generates an enhanced Federal match, resulting in a net cost to the state of less than 1% of the Medicaid budget, making the insurance for the 41,000 children at low cost to Illinois taxpayers, including Chicago residents;

WHEREAS, Under current law, Covering All Kids sunsets July 1, 2016 and State House Bill 5736 extends the program until October 1, 2019 ensuring that 41,000 children do not lose access to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Substantial federal matching funds will be lost or at risk, and children from working poor families, including immigrant children, will lose health coverage on July 1, if Illinois does not continue Covering All Kids;

BE IT RESOVED THAT, The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Chicago, support the continuation of the Covering All Kids act to ensure that all children have access to healthcare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Chicago hereby urge Governor Rauner and the Illinois State legislature assure the continuation of the All Kids by approving HB 5736, extending the sunset provision of Covering All Kids to October 1, 2019.

Carlos Ramirez-R

Alderman, 35th Ward

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