



September 26, 2007

Dear Senator:

On behalf of ANCOR's 850 private providers of supports to more than 380,000 children and adults with significant disabilities, **I am writing to offer our strong support for passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 (HR 976).**

The reauthorization bill before you represents a bipartisan, bicameral compromise that 1) ensures that SCHIP funding will continue after September 30, 2007; 2) continues SCHIP health care to all children currently covered by states; 3) reflects a fiscally-responsible approach to the challenge of health care coverage to our nation's 9 million low- and moderate-income uninsured children; 4) is paid for with revenue offsets; 5) provides health care coverage through the private market; 6) provides needed funding to help reach nearly 4 million additionally uninsured children; and 7) provides much needed, specific protections for thousands of children and adults with disabilities.

This bipartisan compromise also includes a key provision (Section 616) especially important to ANCOR's private providers of Medicaid supports and services to people with significant developmental disabilities and mental illness—language placing a moratorium through May 24, 2008 on any action by HHS/CMS to restrict coverage or payment for rehabilitation services or school-based administration funded by Medicaid. You may recall that the Senate rejected this approach when you took action on the Deficit Reduction Act. ANCOR appreciates the Senate's leadership in including this important language in the final bipartisan compromise. This moratorium provides Congress with the opportunity to grapple with numerous complex policy issues and avoid ill-considered policy changes that will eliminate services to many people with severe disabilities and adversely affect state flexibility in determining their Medicaid state plan services and the financing of critical supports.

ANCOR urges you to support **the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 (HR 976).**

Sincerely,

Suellen R. Galbraith

Director for Government Relations