



Kids Can't Wait!



Ask the Legislature to make health care available to all Massachusetts children

Over 50,000 Massachusetts children are uninsured—and the Governor's budget would make it worse. Read the facts – then see the back for how you can help.

The Governor's proposed budget would:

- 1. Leave an estimated 14,000 children on the waitlist for health insurance** by underfunding the Children's Medical Security Plan (CMSP).
 - *More children will become sick, miss out on school, and have to go to emergency rooms instead of doctors' offices.*
- 2. Keep children's health care premiums unaffordable.**
 - *The Children's Medical Security Plan and MassHealth (Medicaid) have begun charging children premiums that thousands of families can't afford.*
- 3. Deny prenatal care to an estimated 1,650 pregnant women per month** by underfunding the Healthy Start program.
 - *Enrollment would need to be closed – even though the Federal government pays for 65% of Healthy Start costs!*
- 4. Eliminate all state funding for school health services.**
 - *School nurses and health centers care for many children without health insurance. This cut would especially hurt children of color and immigrant children.*

You can help – it's easy! See the back of this page.

Children's Health Access Coalition

Health Care For All ~ 30 Winter Street ~ Boston MA 02108

617-275-2932 · auger@hcfama.org

Kids Can't Wait!

Here's how you can help all Massachusetts children get health care. It's easy and just takes a few minutes. Next year's budget is being planned now — please call or email today!

1. Call or email your state Representative and Senator.

To find your Representative and Senator call 617-722-2000, visit www.wheredoivotema.com, or call Stacey Auger at (617) 275-2935.

Here are some ideas on what to say or write. It's fine to speak to their staff.

Hello. My name is _____ and I live at [street address and town]. I am calling to ask the [Senator or Representative] to make children's health care one of his/her three top priorities for the new budget. I also have three specific requests:

- *fund the Children's Medical Security Plan at \$19 million,*
- *fund the Healthy Start prenatal care program at \$12.8 million, and*
- *make children's health care premiums affordable again — put the language from the Moore/Koutoujian children's premium legislation into the budget.*

[You may also want to say why you think children's health is important.]

2. If possible also call or email the chairs of the House and Senate Ways and Means Committees with the same message:

Representative John Rogers, House Chair of Ways & Means, (617) 722-2990,

JRogers@hwm.state.ma.us

Senator Therese Murray, Senate Chair of Ways & Means, (617) 722-1330,

TMurray@senate.state.ma.us

3. Want to do more? Join the Children's Health Access Coalition!

We work to help all Massachusetts children get affordable health care.

For more information, to become a member, or to contribute, please contact

Stacey Auger at (617) 275-2935 or auger@hcfama.org.

Thank you!