



2007 Reauthorization: Key SCHIP Events

January–March 2007	The National Governors Association and key advocacy, provider, and religious groups send letters to Congress calling for SCHIP reauthorization to be made a top priority. Major campaigns start in D.C. and across the country to press for a strong reauthorization. They continue throughout 2007, helping to solidify congressional resolve to address SCHIP and public support for covering children.
February 5, 2007	President Bush’s fiscal year 2008 budget proposes \$4.8 billion over five years for SCHIP, an amount that falls short of the \$14 billion that the Congressional Budget Office estimates is needed to maintain the current SCHIP program. It also proposes limiting SCHIP coverage to uninsured children below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
May 2007	Congress approves a budget resolution for fiscal year 2008 that provides \$50 billion for a five-year SCHIP reauthorization.
June/July 2007	The Bush Administration begins to publicly attack the congressional effort to reauthorize SCHIP through speeches, the release of highly controversial data designed to minimize the problem of uninsured children, and a coordinated campaign of letters to local newspapers deriding the congressional initiative.
July 26, 2007	Finance Committee Chairman, Max Baucus, introduces S. 1893, the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (“CHIPRA”). Developed on a bi-partisan basis with Senators Rockefeller, Grassley, and Hatch, the bill provides \$35 billion in new funding for children’s coverage financed by a tobacco tax increase.
July 24, 2007	Chairman Dingell introduces H.R. 3162, the Children’s Health and Medicare Protection Act (“CHAMP Act”), a package that includes major changes to Medicare, as well as \$50 billion for children’s health coverage under Medicaid and SCHIP. It is financed through a tobacco tax increase and reductions in payments to Medicare Advantage plans.
August 1, 2007	The House passes the CHAMP Act by a vote of 225 to 204.
August 2, 2007	The Senate passes CHIPRA, a \$35 billion reauthorization package based on the bi-partisan work of Senators Baucus, Grassley, Hatch, and Rockefeller, by a vote of 68 to 31. (For technical reasons, the bill is relabeled as H.R. 976.)
August 17, 2007	CMS sends a letter to state SCHIP directors that effectively eliminates the state flexibility to cover uninsured children living in families with incomes above 250 percent of the federal poverty level.



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September 25, 2007	By a vote of 265 to 159, the House approves a version of CHIPRA (H.R. 976). Although based largely on the original CHIPRA legislation introduced by Senator Baucus, the House includes some changes to the financing and benefit provisions of the bill before adopting it.
September 27, 2007	To ensure that the Senate and the House have adopted identical bills, the Senate approves by a vote of 67 to 29 the House's version of CHIPRA (H.R. 976), allowing the \$35 billion bill to be sent to the President.
October 3, 2007	President Bush vetoes CHIPRA.
October 18, 2007	The House votes 273 to 156 to override the veto of CHIPRA, falling about a dozen votes short of the 2/3rds needed.
October 25, 2007	By a vote of 265 to 142, the House passes "CHIPRA 2" (H.R. 3963), a revised version of the \$35 billion SCHIP reauthorization package. While similar to the original CHIPRA legislation in most respects, CHIPRA 2 goes even further in shutting down state flexibility to cover children above 300% of the federal poverty level; speeding up the elimination of coverage for adults; and modifying the citizenship documentation requirements in Medicaid and SCHIP.
November 1, 2007	The Senate passes CHIPRA 2 by a vote of 64 to 30.
December 12, 2007	President Bush vetoes CHIPRA 2.
December 19, 2007	Congress includes an extension of SCHIP through March of 2009 in S. 2499, the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension bill. It includes funds for pending SCHIP shortfalls, but allows the August 17 th directive to stand.
December 29, 2007	President Bush signs the SCHIP extension bill (S. 2499) into law (P.L.110-173)
January 23, 2008	The House votes 260 to 152 to override President Bush's veto of CHIPRA 2, falling about a dozen votes short of the 2/3rds that were needed.

See CCF Web site, 2007 SCHIP Reauthorization for information and materials listed in this timeline:
<http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/2007-schip-reauthorization>