

Congress Missed the Deadline on CHIP: What Does That Mean for Utah Kid

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Written by: Questions?



September 30th was the deadline for Congress to renew the [Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP](#). So what happens now to the almost 20,000 Utah children who currently rely on CHIP for their health insurance?

First (a little) good news: Utah has enough money in its CHIP program to make it through the end of the year. Plus CHIP is a very popular program. Utah's own [Senator Hatch has come out with strong statements](#) in support of CHIP renewal, and is spearheading a bipartisan proposal to keep the program funded.

But here's the bad news: If Congress doesn't act soon, Utah's CHIP program will have to start [sending notices to families by early November](#). So thousands of families could receive notices that their children no longer have health insurance coverage.

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The other troubling news: While there are strong bipartisan solutions to extend CHIP funding for 5 years, the bill could get muddled up in GOP attempts to cut back funding to other vulnerable populations. It could become a [messy, bargaining 'chip'](#)...

What can you do? Tell Congress to stop playing games with children's health. They must act *now* on a [clean, 5-year extension of CHIP funding](#). Otherwise almost 20,000 Utah kids could lose health coverage.

We cannot let that happen.

Call Utah Senators and House members today. Tell them to protect CHIP now -- without any interruptions to kids' coverage.

Sen. Orrin Hatch [\(202\) 224-5251](#) (DC) // [\(801\) 524-4380](#) (SLC) // [\(801\) 375-7881](#) (Provo) // [\(435\) 634-1795](#) (St. George) // [\(801\) 625-5672](#) (Ogden) // [\(435\) 586-8435](#) (Cedar City)

Sen. Mike Lee [202-224-5444](#) (DC) // [801-524-5933](#) (SLC) // [435-628-5514](#) (St. George) // [801-392-9633](#) (Ogden)

Rep. Rob Bishop (Congressional District 1): [202-225-0453](#) (DC) // [801-625-0107](#) (Ogden)

Rep. Chris Stewart (Congressional District 2): [202-225-9730](#) (DC) // [801-364-5550](#) (SLC) // [435-627-1500](#) (St. George)

Rep. Mia Love (Congressional District 4): [\(202\) 225-3011](#) (DC) // [801-996-8729](#) (West Jordan)

Not sure who your U.S. Representative is?

<https://www.utah.gov/government/contactgov.html>

For 30 years now, Voices for Utah Children has called on our state, federal and local leaders to put children's needs first. But the work is not done. The children of 30 years ago now have children of their own. Too many of these children are growing up in poverty, without access to healthcare or quality educational opportunities.

How can you be involved?

[Make a tax-deductible donation](#) to Voices for Utah Children—or [join our Network](#) with

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a monthly donation of \$20 or more. Network membership includes complimentary admission to Network events with food, socializing, and opportunity to meet child advocacy experts. And don't forget to [join our listserv](#) to stay informed!

We look forward to the future of Voices for Utah Children and we hope you will be a part of our next 30 years.

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