



News Release From . . .

Congressman Rodney Alexander
5th Congressional District of Louisiana

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Alexander Supports Extension of State Children's Health Insurance Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, today voted to extend the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) through November. The program was set to expire September 30, and today the House of Representatives passed legislation, H.J.Res. 52, that included language to extend SCHIP until November 16.

While serving as Chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee in the Louisiana State Legislature, Alexander worked to launch the Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP), which receives funding through SCHIP.

Alexander said there has been a push in Congress to expand the federal program so that more American children are eligible to enroll, but his focus continues to be ensuring those with the greatest need benefit from the program.

“Over 100,000 children in Louisiana are currently enrolled in SCHIP, and Congress has a responsibility to ensure that those children and countless others in our country continue to receive the care they need,” Alexander said.

“At the same time, we also have a responsibility to ensure that those who need the program most are receiving the benefits, and right now that's not happening. In Louisiana, there are over 90,000 children who are eligible but are not enrolled. As Congress goes on to debate the reauthorization of SCHIP, I will work to ensure that the program stays true to its original purpose – providing health insurance to children who cannot afford it.”

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