

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REINSTATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (KIDSCARE) IN ARIZONA.

Whereas, CHIP, or Children's Health Insurance Program, known as KidsCare in Arizona, was begun in 1997 as a bipartisan effort to increase children's access to health care for those children whose families earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but who, nevertheless, make too little to afford health insurance, and nationally, CHIP covers more than 8 million children, and as of early 2013, covered over 80,000 children in Arizona at a very low cost to the state due to a 3:1 federal match, and

Whereas, we know from many studies that when children have a third-party payment source, they can access primary health care services and they perform better in school; and

Whereas, KidsCare has not been funded since 2013 in Arizona, so that currently there are only 1800 children in the program with many thousands on the waiting list and Arizona is the only state in the country to have cut CHIP;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Arizona Democratic Party supports the reinstatement of KidsCare in Arizona, and that Arizona legislators and the Governor be advised, by letter, of this resolution.

Submitted by:
Dr. Eve Shapiro