

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for continuous eligibility for certain children under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CASTOR of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for continuous eligibility for certain children under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Keep Kids Covered
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING STATES TO PROVIDE FOR CONTINUOUS**
2 **ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN UNDER MED-**
3 **ICAID AND CHIP.**

4 (a) CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR DEEMED
5 NEWBORNS UNTIL AGE 6.—

6 (1) MEDICAID.—Section 1902(e)(4) of the So-
7 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(4)) is amend-
8 ed by striking “one year” and inserting “6 years”.

9 (2) CHIP.—Section 2112(e) of the Social Secu-
10 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1397ll(e)) is amended by strik-
11 ing “1 year of age” and inserting “6 years of age
12 (except that such a child who is enrolled under the
13 State child health plan or waiver may be transferred
14 to the Medicaid program under title XIX for the re-
15 maining duration of the 6-year continuous eligibility
16 period, if the child becomes eligible for full benefits
17 under title XIX during such period)”.

18 (b) CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN
19 UNDER AGE 19.—

20 (1) MEDICAID.—Section 1902(e)(12) of the So-
21 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(12)) is
22 amended—

23 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
24 “1 YEAR OF CONTINUOUS” and inserting “CON-
25 TINUOUS”;

1 (B) in the text preceding subparagraph
2 (A), by inserting “has attained the age of 6
3 and” after “an individual who”;

4 (C) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the
5 12-month period” and inserting “the 24-month
6 period”;

7 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
8 through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respec-
9 tively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;
10 and

11 (E) by striking “The State plan” and in-
12 sserting

13 “(A) CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6.—The State
14 plan (or waiver of such State plan) shall pro-
15 vide that an individual who is under the age of
16 6 and who is determined to be eligible for bene-
17 fits under a State plan (or waiver of such plan)
18 approved under this title under subsection
19 (a)(10)(A) shall remain eligible for such bene-
20 fits until the earlier of—

21 “(i) the time that such individual at-
22 tains the age of 6; or

23 “(ii) the date that such individual
24 ceases to be a resident of such State.

1 “(B) CHILDREN AGES 6 THROUGH 18.—
2 The State plan”.

3 (2) CHIP.—Section 2107(e)(1)(K) of the So-
4 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397gg(e)(1)(K)) is
5 amended—

6 (A) by striking “1 year of”; and

7 (B) by striking “12-month” and inserting
8 “applicable”.

9 (c) UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION DURING
10 CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY PERIOD.—

11 (1) MEDICAID.—Section 1902(a) of the Social
12 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended—

13 (A) in paragraph (86), by striking “and”
14 at the end;

15 (B) in paragraph (87), by striking the pe-
16 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

17 (C) by inserting after paragraph (87) the
18 following new paragraph:

19 “(88) provide for a process—

20 “(A) to obtain, not less frequently than an-
21 nually, the up-to-date contact information for
22 individuals enrolled under such plan (or a waiv-
23 er of such plan) who have been so enrolled for
24 a period of longer than 12 months pursuant to

1 a continuous eligibility provision under this
2 title; and

3 “(B) to inform each such individual of
4 their enrollment under such plan (or waiver)
5 pursuant to such continuous eligibility provision
6 and of the remaining duration of the applicable
7 period of continuous eligibility.”.

8 (2) CHIP.—Section 2107(e)(1) of the Social
9 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397gg(e)(1)) is amended—

10 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (H)
11 through (U) as subparagraphs (I) through (V),
12 respectively; and

13 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (G)
14 the following new subparagraph:

15 “(H) Section 1902(a)(88) (relating to the
16 verification of contact information and provision
17 of information regarding enrollment during a
18 period of continuous eligibility).”.

19 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
20 this section shall take effect on the date that is 1 year
21 after the date of the enactment of this section.