



KANSAS HEALTH CONSUMER COALITION

STRENGTHENING THE VOICE OF KANSANS ON CRITICAL HEALTH CARE ISSUES.

534 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 1220 | Topeka, Kansas 66603 | Ph: 785.232.9997 | F: 785-232.9998 | corrie@kshealthconsumer.org

KANSAS HEALTH CONSUMER COALITION LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, WEEK 11

SCHIP FUNDING RESTORED IN MEGA APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Both the House and Senate have restored \$1.2 million to fund the SCHIP expansion enacted during the 2008 Legislative Session. This expansion covers children up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level. The restored funding has been included in the appropriations conference committee report. This report will now be sent to each chamber for an up or down vote.

CLEAN INDOOR AIR

Representative Charlie Roth from Salina attempted to amend a bill on the House floor with clean indoor air legislation. After much discussion, the amendment was ultimately ruled “not quite germane.” The House has not yet had a floor debate on clean indoor air.

To keep the issue alive, the Senate began debate on its clean indoor air bill, HB 2221. The debate was postponed until this week because several amendments are being drafted. Tobacco interests continue to heavily lobby the issue. If HB 2221 passes the Senate, it will be sent to the House where it is expected to be assigned to a conference committee.

REMEMBER ...

The last significant deadline of the 2009 Legislative Session passed on Wednesday. Any legislation that has not already passed both the House and Senate chambers is no longer viable for the remainder of the Session, unless it comes from one of the exempt committees. The focus of the Session from this point on will be the 2010 budget and a few key outstanding policy issues.

For more information about legislative deadlines, bills, and legislator contact information, please visit www.kslegislature.org.

*534 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 1220, Topeka, KS, 66603
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corrie@kshealthconsumer.org*