

**Washington, DC** - This afternoon, the House failed to reach a two-thirds majority on a vote to override the President's veto of the Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2007. The legislation would've increased funding for the program through 2012 to provide health insurance for approximately 10 million children, including close to half a million in Texas, all of whom are currently eligible to receive healthcare but lack benefits due to insufficient federal funding.

"The President and his allies in Congress squandered a historic opportunity to insure 10 million children whose families can't afford health insurance. Sadly, their rejection of a broadly supported bipartisan bill highlights the realities of their misplaced priorities," said Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20) after the vote.

"The outcome of this vote does not signal an end of this debate. Millions of eligible children still lack coverage under CHIP and as members of Congress we have a responsibility to renew this program in a responsible and timely fashion. I am hopeful that my colleagues will answer this call and arrive at a solution on behalf of what's most important in this debate: the best interests of millions of uninsured American children," he added.

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