ON JULY 1: 41,000 LOW INCOME CHILDREN INCLUDING IMMIGRANT CHILDREN WILL LOSE THEIR HEALTHCARE UNLESS THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR ACT NOW

- Covering All Kids has resulted in Illinois having the second highest rate of health coverage for Latino children in the nation – 95.5%
- Covering All Kids has resulted in Illinois having one of the highest rates of health coverage for ALL children - 96.7%
- Covering All Kids generates an enhanced Federal match: the program draws down over $40 million annual federal match that reduces the already modest state cost
- In 2006, Covering All Kids was passed with a unanimous bi-partisan vote of 107 to nothing in the IL House, and has since enjoyed the support of both Democratic and Republican Governors
- Substantial federal matching funds will be lost or at risk, and children from working poor families, including immigrant children, will lose health coverage on July 1, if Illinois does not continue “Covering All Kids”
- SUPPORT HB5736: amending The Covering ALL KIDS Health Insurance Act to extend the sunset date from July 1, 2016 to October 1, 2019

The Covering All Kids Health Insurance Act covers an estimated 41,000 children from working poor families regardless of their immigration status. The program is the result of a bi-partisan policy decision made in Illinois a decade ago and renewed consistently by Democrat and Republican Governors since then, that in Illinois all children are treated equally and have access to health coverage. The Covering All Kids Act ensures that every child has a relationship with a doctor, receives preventive care, early diagnosis and treatment, and the best health outcomes. Under current law, The Covering All Kids Act sunsets July 1, 2016. HB5736 extends the program to October 1, 2019.

COVERING ALL KIDS WORKS

- Covering All Kids improves access to preventive and primary care and protects against communicable diseases making our communities healthier. Publicly insured children report health screenings 28 percent higher than uninsured children. A child with untreated health problems is more likely to experience

CONTACTS: Jesse Hoyt jessehoyt@healthyillinoiscampaign.org 773-507-4809; http://www.healthvillinoiscampaign.org/
cognitive, behavioral, or physical disabilities as a child, and to develop future conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes.

- Health insurance during childhood reduces mortality rates and results in fewer expensive adult emergency room visits and hospitalizations. **African Americans eligible for Medicaid were hospitalized 8 to 13 percent less and visited the emergency room 3 to 4 percent less at age 25.**

- Children with health insurance demonstrate positive education outcomes. **A 10% increase in children with health insurance leads to a 5 percent decrease in the high school dropout rate** and greater than a 3 percent increase in the four-year college attainment rate. Covering undocumented children significantly reduced the share of children who missed any school in a month due to illness (from 43.2% to 35.4%) or missed three or more days of school in the past month due to illness (from 16.0% to 10.9%).

**COVERING ALL KIDS STRENGTHENS THE ILLINOIS ECONOMY**

- Children with health insurance earn more income as working adults – for each additional year they were on Medicaid as children, **they contributed $186 more in taxes** through age 28

- Reduces or ends the cost of treating uninsured children in hospitals or institutions, especially costs that are avoidable with good preventive care

- Constitutes about **half of one percent** of Illinois health insurance spending – a small investment while drawing down a **$40 million annual federal match** that reduces the already modest state cost

**All Kids has had unanimous bipartisan support** when it was introduced and passed in 2006, with **107 yeas to 0 nays in the Illinois House.** It has had strong bi-partisan support throughout its history. Illinois is a proud leader on the bi-partisan principle that all children should have health coverage. HB 5736 continues that strong tradition.

**ON JULY 1: 41,000 children will lose health insurance, and substantial federal matching funds will be lost or at risk unless the Legislature and Governor ACT NOW**