



Hon. Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

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HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM

Benefits for Children and Young Adults

Sacramento's children will be much better off with health insurance reform than under the status quo. By expanding coverage to more working families, health insurance reform will bring stability and security to the coverage status of kids across our community. *Currently, 16,000 children in Sacramento County are uninsured entirely.* Additionally, health insurance reform will invest in and strengthen public insurance programs that already provide a valuable safety net for children across our region, as outlined below:

- **BANS PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSIONS FOR CHILDREN:** It will be illegal for insurance companies to refuse to cover children with pre-existing conditions.
- **DEEPENS THE FEDERAL COMMITMENT TO MEDICAID:** States will be rewarded for expanding Medicaid coverage for recommended preventive services and immunizations without requiring cost-sharing from beneficiaries.
- **INVESTS IN MEDI-CAL PAYMENTS FOR PRIMARY CARE:** For 2013 and 2014, payments to primary care providers will be increased so that more primary care doctors join the system and begin treating low-income children with Medi-Cal coverage. *There are approximately 85,000 children in Sacramento County on Medi-Cal, which is a joint federal-state public insurance program for low-income children and some low-income adults.*
- **GIVES YOUNG ADULTS ENHANCED ACCESS TO THEIR PARENTS' INSURANCE:** Young adults will be able to stay on their parent's insurance until their 26th birthday. *In Sacramento alone, this policy will give 70,000 young adults the option to continue receiving health coverage through their parents.*
- **EXTENDS AND STRENGTHENS THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM:** The federal commitment to Healthy Families (which is California's name for the federal Children's Health Insurance Program) will be extended for two additional years (through 2015). *The 30,000 children in Sacramento who receive Healthy Families coverage will directly benefit from this provision.*
- **SUPPORTS PREGNANT AND PARENTING WOMEN:** \$25 million in grants to States will be made available to provide assistance to pregnant and parenting teens and women. Children are more likely to grow up healthy if they are raised in a supportive and healthy environment.
- **GUARANTEES GREATER CHOICE OF PEDIATRICIANS:** Parents will be able to choose their children's pediatricians from among any in-network primary care provider.