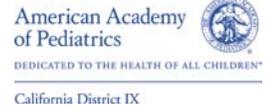




CH1LDREN NOW



Healthy Families Deserves a Healthy Transition:

Statement of Support for the "Bright-Line" Alternative to the Governor's Children's Health Budget Proposal

The Brown Administration's FY 2012/13 budget proposal would eliminate the Healthy Families Program and transfer all 875,000 Healthy Families children to Medi-Cal by June 2013. The undersigned organizations are concerned that the proposed transition would disrupt care for hundreds of thousands of children and undermine access to care for both children enrolled in Healthy Families and children currently enrolled in Medi-Cal. We therefore endorse a more reasonable alternative proposal.

We support a transition of only those Healthy Families children with family income up to 133% of the federal poverty level – also known as "bright-line" children – from Healthy Families into Medi-Cal starting in January 2013. It is critical that the transition of "bright-line" children be accompanied by sufficient safeguards to ensure that kids are able to access the providers and services that they need in a timely way, as well as a precise monitoring plan to evaluate the impact of the transition at key junctures.

Transitioning the "bright-line" children is consistent with the Affordable Care Act, which requires this subset of the Healthy Families population be enrolled in Medi-Cal by 2014. These lower income children are also the most likely to benefit from Medi-Cal's features, such as no co-pays or premiums. In addition, transitioning the "bright-line" children would reduce the number of families with children split between Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, as children would no longer be forced to change programs (from Medi-Cal to Healthy Families) when they turn six. The alternative "bright-line" proposal is supported by recent analyses from both the non-partisan [Legislative Analyst's Office](#) and the highly-respected economic and social policy research organization, the [Urban Institute](#).

American Academy of Pediatrics California District
Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Black Health Network, Inc.
California Coverage & Health Initiatives
California Family Resource Association
California Medical Association
California Primary Care Association
California School Health Centers Association
California State Rural Health Association
Children Now
Children's Health Initiative of Santa Barbara
Children's Defense Fund-California
The Children's Partnership
Children's Specialty Care Coalition
Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo, Inc.
Congregations Building Community – Modesto
Congregations Organizing for Renewal
Contra Costa Interfaith Supporting Community Organization
Faith in Community - Fresno

First 5 Placer Children and Families Commission
Fresno Center for New Americans
Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries
Greater Long Beach Area Interfaith Community Organization
Health Access
Healthy House Within a MATCH Coalition - Merced
Hmong Health Collaborative
Hmong Women's Heritage Association
Inland Congregations United for Change
LA Voice
Merced Organizing Project
Orange County Congregation Community Organization
People Acting in Community Together - San Jose
People and Congregations Together of San Joaquin County
PICO California
The Placer Children's Health Initiative
Sacramento Area Congregations Together
Southeast Asian Assistance Center
United Ways of California
Visión y Compromiso