



Sound Policy. Quality Care.

October 3, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chairman,  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member,  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Helping Ensure Access for Little ones, Toddlers, and Hopeful Youth by Keeping Insurance Delivery Stable (HEALTHY KIDS) Act**

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone:

As the Alliance of Specialty Medicine (Alliance), our mission is to advocate for sound federal health care policy that fosters patient access to the highest quality specialty care. As patient and physician advocates, we write to thank you for scheduling a committee markup of the Helping Ensure Access for Little ones, Toddlers, and Hopeful Youth by Keeping Insurance Delivery Stable (HEALTHY KIDS) Act.

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health coverage to eligible children, through both Medicaid and separate CHIP programs administered by states, according to federal requirements. The Alliance is concerned that authorization for federal funding of the program expired on September 30<sup>th</sup>. As this program is funded jointly by states and the federal government, we urge timely action by Congress to reauthorize funding for this program to prevent any disruption in coverage and access to care for eligible children.

We appreciate your consideration and urge the committee to favorably report out the HEALTHY KIDS Act.

Sincerely,

The Alliance of Specialty Medicine

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