

facsimile transmission

Number of pages: 4

To: Ms. Maria Echaveste
From: David Beckmann
Date: October 13, 2000
Re: Letter from Religious Leaders

Attached is a letter to President Clinton from 25 religious leaders across the country. The letter urges the President to restore food stamp benefits to legal immigrants.

We have also delivered a copy of this letter to the White House.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD / BREAD FOR THE WORLD INSTITUTE

50 F Street, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20001 - 1565

Phone: 202-639-9400

Fax: 202-639-9401

"When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

Leviticus 19:33-34

October 13, 2000

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As this congressional term nears its end, we ask you to make restoration of food stamp eligibility for low-income legal immigrants a top priority for your Administration. As people of faith, we deeply believe that legal immigrants should have the same access to the Food Stamp Program as citizens of our country.

Outrage for the plight of people living in poverty and concern for the powerless are central themes in our religious traditions. God cares deeply for the needy. We are a richly blessed nation. Yet, despite the booming economy, despite all that religious communities and charities do to end hunger, 31 million people in the United States still live in households that struggle with hunger. The persistence of widespread hunger in this country is immoral and is a serious challenge for both our government and the faith communities.

At a time of great prosperity, the United States should devote some of its wealth to strengthen the nation's number one defense against hunger – the federal Food Stamp Program. Congress is poised to pass two of three food stamp provisions included in the bipartisan Hunger Relief Act (S. 1805/H.R. 3192) as part of the Agriculture Appropriations conference report. For this we are deeply grateful. A full food stamp restoration for legal immigrants is not among the Hunger Relief Act provisions included in the agriculture spending bill. Low-income legal immigrants work hard and pay taxes alongside U.S. citizens. They deserve our attention, especially when they are struggling to meet such a basic need of food.

Recently released USDA statistics show that immigrant participation in the federal Food Stamp Program fell drastically between 1994 and 1998. The largest decline by far was among lawful permanent resident immigrants, whose participation in the Food Stamp Program went down by

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83 percent. Even more alarming was a 75 percent drop in the participation of U.S. born children of legal immigrants.

Mr. President, we need your leadership on this most vital issue. When you signed the welfare bill, you acknowledged that the cuts in benefits to legal immigrants were too extreme. Your budget this year does include funding for a partial restoration. Now is the time to right this wrong and ensure that low-income legal immigrants who fall on hard times do not go hungry.

Faithfully,

The Rev. H. George Anderson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. David Beckmann
President
Bread for the World

The Rev. Peter Borgdorff
Executive Director of Ministries
Christian Reformed Church

Dr. Clive Calver
President
World Relief

Dr. Leonard Cole
Chairman
Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Ralston H. Deffenbaugh Jr.
President
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Rabbi Steven M. Dworken
Executive Vice President
Rabbinical Council of America

Rabbi Jerome M. Epstein
Executive Vice President
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

The Most Rev. Joseph A. Fiorenza
Bishop of Galveston-Houston
President, United States Catholic Conference

The Rev. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson
General Secretary
Reformed Church in America

Neil Greenbaum, Esq.
President
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold
Presiding Bishop and Primate
Episcopal Church USA

Rabbi Kenneth N. Hain
President
Rabbinical Council of America

Fr. Fred Kammer, SJ
President
Catholic Charities USA

The Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Rabbi Charles Kroloff
President
Central Conference of American Rabbis

-3-

Rabbi Eugene H. Levy
Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock, AR

Joanne Negstad
President/CEO
Lutheran Services in America

The Rev. José Ortiz
Executive Director
Mennonite Central Committee U.S.

Rabbi David Saperstein
Director
Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Rabbi Arthur Schneier
*Senior Rabbi, Park East Synagogue, and
President, Appeal of Conscience Foundation*

Bryan Sickbert
Executive Director
Council for Health and Human Service
Ministries, United Church of Christ

The Rev. John Thomas
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie
President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
President
Hebrew-Union College, Jewish Institute of
Religion

cc: The Honorable Dan Glickman
John Podesta
Jacob Lew
Maria Echaveste
Gene Sperling
Barbara Chow
Maureen Shea

September 6, 2000

Dear Senator:

The undersigned hospital organizations urge you to enact the "Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act of 2000" (S. 1227), originally cosponsored by Senators McCain (R-AZ), Graham (D-FL), Mack (F-FL), Moynihan (D-NY), Jeffords (R-VT), and the late John Chafee (R-RI). The Act would give states the option to provide benefits under Medicaid and/or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to immigrant children and pregnant women who are lawfully present in the U.S., but who arrived after the welfare reform bill's August 22, 1996 cut-off for receipt of public benefits.

As hospital organizations, the undersigned represent a broad spectrum of providers who deliver important healthcare services such as prenatal care to hundreds of thousands of lawfully present but uninsured immigrant women and children annually. Because legal immigrants frequently lack comprehensive health insurance coverage, these services are often provided free of charge or in a costly emergency care setting. Until Congress takes action to address the arbitrary cut-off date for legal immigrants to receive public benefits such as Medicaid and SCHIP, caring for legal immigrants will continue to add to the uncompensated care burden already faced by many hospitals across the country. Without Medicaid or SCHIP coverage, legal immigrants may delay seeking care until their conditions are more costly to treat. In addition, they could pose a public health risk to their communities if they delay seeking care for communicable diseases.

Swift enactment of this legislation is a priority for the undersigned organizations and would further the Congress' efforts to provide important fiscal relief for America's hospitals. We urge your support for this Act and for the important public health services that it would help provide to pregnant women and children who are lawfully present in our country.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact any of the organizations below or Charles Luband, National Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems, at 202-624-7215.

Sincerely,

American Hospital Association
Association of American Medical Colleges
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Federation of American Hospitals
National Association of Children's Hospitals
National Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems
Premier, Inc.
VHA Inc.



May 23, 2000

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations urge you to cosponsor the "Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act," which will shortly be introduced in the House by Rep. Diaz-Balart (R-FL).

This legislation would give states the option to provide health coverage to lawfully present children and pregnant women who arrived after August 22, 1996, under the Medicaid and State Child Health Insurance Programs (CHIP). We believe that this legislation is a critical step in reaching our shared national goal of providing health care to children who are currently uninsured.

We believe it is a mistake to deny states the ability to provide Medicaid or CHIP to legal immigrant children because of their date of entry. Tragically, such a policy will inevitably mean that some children develop health complications that could have been prevented. In addition to causing needless suffering, the long term effects of inadequate health care services can prevent children from making a full economic contribution as they grow into adulthood. Confusion about who is eligible has also proven to be a serious barrier to successful outreach efforts to enroll eligible children in the Medicaid and CHIP programs.

Similarly, we believe it is arbitrary to deny needed prenatal care to lawfully present pregnant women simply because they arrived after a certain date. From an economic and health perspective, the benefits of investing in prenatal care are well established.

For all of these reasons, we urge you to cosponsor the "Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act." We believe this legislation will be of great help in addressing the health concerns that lawfully present immigrant children and their families face.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Alliance for Children and Families
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association on Mental Retardation
American College of Nurses-Midwives
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Hospital Association
American Network of Community Options and Resources
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
Arab American Institute
Ascension Health
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
Bon Secours Health System, Inc.
Cambodian Association of America
Carondelet Health System
Catholic Charities USA
Catholic Health Association
Catholic Health Initiatives
Center for Adolescent Health & the Law
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Center for Community Change
Children's Defense Fund
Children's Health Matters
Consumers Union
Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.
Families USA
Family Voices, Inc.
Farmworker Justice Fund Inc.
Federation of American Health Systems
Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
Friends Committee on National Legislation (Quaker)
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
Immigration and Refugee Services of America
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
Lutheran Services of America
March of Dimes
Mennonite Central Committee U.S., Washington Office
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
Migrant Legal Action Program
National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium
National Association of Child Advocates
National Association of Children's Hospitals
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Mental Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners
National Association of People with AIDS
National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems
National Association of Psychiatric Treatment Centers for Children
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of WIC Directors
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Council of La Raza
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Health Law Program, Inc.
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Immigration Forum
National Immigration Law Center
National Leadership Coalition for Health Care
National Mental Health Association

National Partnership for Women and Families
National Puerto Rican Coalition
National Therapeutic Recreation Society
National Women's Law Center
Neighbor to Neighbor
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
Premier Inc.

RESULTS

Service Employees International Union
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
The Children's Health Fund
The Episcopal Church
The Migrant Clinicians Network, Inc.
United Auto Workers
United Church of Christ Office for Church in Society
United Jewish Communities
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN!)
U.S. Student Association
VHA Inc.

State and Local Organizations

ALABAMA

Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama, Birmingham

ARIZONA

Boys and Girls Clubs of the East Valley, Tempe
Children's Action Alliance, Phoenix
El Rio Santa Cruz Neighborhood Health Center, Inc.
National Association of Social Workers, Arizona Chapter
Upward Bound/Arizona Western College, Yuma

CALIFORNIA

ACCESS/Women's Health Rights Coalition, Oakland
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum, San Francisco
Asian Health Services, Oakland
Asian Law Alliance, San Jose
Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, Los Angeles
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations, Oakland
Habitat for Humanity, Berkeley
California Church Impact
California Immigrant Welfare Collaborative
California Primary Care Association
California School Nurses Association
Catholic Healthcare West, San Francisco
Center on Law, Poverty & Economic Opportunity, Oakland
CLAD/BCLAD Networked Learning Project, San Francisco
Clear Lake Association for Developmental Disabilities, Cobb
Children Now, Oakland
Children's Hospital, Oakland
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles
Coalition for Quality Health Care, San Diego County
Family Health Project, Berkeley
Grassroots Organizing for Welfare Liberation, Oakland
Health Access Foundation, San Francisco

Health Consumer Alliance, Oakland
Kids in Common, San Jose
Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger & Homelessness
Los Angeles Free Clinic
Marian Medical Center, Santa Maria
Maternal and Child Health Access, Los Angeles
Mendocino Coast Clinics, Fort Bragg
National Asian Pacific Center On Aging, San Francisco
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition, San Francisco
Pediatric & Family Medical Center, Los Angeles
Planning for Elders in the Central City, San Francisco
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, Sacramento
Redwood Community Health Coalition, Santa Rosa
San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium
Santa Barbara County Public Health Department
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center
South Asian Network, Artesia
South Central Family Health Center, Los Angeles
Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing, Los Angeles
St. Joseph Health System of Greater Sonoma County, Santa Rosa
United Nurses Association of California, Pomona
Venice Family Clinic, Venice
WRAP Family Services, Los Angeles
Youth Together Project, ARC Associates, Oakland

COLORADO

Adult Care Management, Inc., Denver
Asian Pacific Development Center, Denver
Child Health Advocates, Glendale
Denver Covering Kids, Denver
Metro Denver Bright Beginnings, Denver
Southwest Community Outreach Corporation, Berthoud

CONNECTICUT

Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc., Willimantic
Connecticut Call to Action

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
District of Columbia Primary Care Association
EOFULA Spanish Senior Center
Latin American Youth Center
Mary's Center for Maternal & Child Care, Inc.
Newcomer Community Service Center
So Others Might Eat

FLORIDA

Bon Secours Maria Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, St. Petersburg
Bon Secours Venice Healthcare Corp., Venice
Broward Healthy Start Coalition, Inc., Fort Lauderdale
Farmworker's Self-Help, Dade City
Farmworker Ministry Inc., Auburndale
Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition, Key West
Florida Legal Services, Inc., Miami
Health Advocacy Program for the Citizens of Deltona
Human Services Coalition, Miami
Mercy Migrant Education Ministry, Plant City

GEORGIA

Georgians for Children, Atlanta
Southeast Georgia Communities Project, Lyons
The Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc., Doraville

HAWAII

Immigrant Rights and Public Interest Legal Center, Honolulu

IDAHO

Idaho Community Action Network
Northwest Federation of Community Organizations

ILLINOIS

Asian Human Services, Chicago
Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association, Chicago
Chinese Mutual Aid Association, Chicago
Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, Chicago
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, Chicago
Hepatitis B Catch-Up Project, Chicago
Horizons Community Services, Chicago
Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
Illinois Primary Health Care Association
Institute Justice Team, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Des Plaines
Khuli Zaban and Crossroads Fund, Chicago
Physicians for a National Health Program, Chicago

INDIANA

Indiana Public Health Association

IOWA

Iowa Citizen Action Network
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Iowa Family Support Initiative
The Arc of Story County, Ames

KANSAS

Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved
Kansans Respond, Inc., Topeka
Hunter Health Clinic, Wichita

KENTUCKY

Association of Clinicians for the Underserved, Lexington
Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, Ashland

LOUISIANA

Immigration and Refugee Services/Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans
Louisiana Health Care Campaign, Baton Rouge
Louisiana Maternal and Child Health Coalition, Baton Rouge

MARYLAND

Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Baltimore
Maryland Vietnamese Mutual Association, Wheaton

MASSACHUSETTS

AHEC/Community Partners, Leverett
Community Catalyst
Health Care for All
Massachusetts Citizens for Children
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Boston
Massachusetts Public Health Association
Women's Health Institute, Boston
Worcester Latino Coalition

MICHIGAN

Bon Secours Cottage Health Services, Grosse Pointe
Carondelet LifeCare Ministries, St. Paul
Center for Civil Justice, Saginaw
HIV/AIDS Wellness Networks Inc., Traverse City
Michigan League for Human Services
Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, Lansing

MINNESOTA

Legal Services Advocacy Project, St. Paul
Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota, St. Paul
Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners
MORE Multicultural School for Empowerment, St. Paul
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Minnesota Chapter

MISSISSIPPI

Catholic Diocese of Jackson, Mississippi, Office of Hispanic Ministry
Mississippi Gay/Lesbian Alliance
Mississippi Health Advocacy Program

MISSOURI

Carondelet Health System, St. Louis
Catholic Community Services/Vietnamese Center, St. Louis
Citizens for Missouri's Children
Immigrant and Refugee Women's Program, St. Louis
Missouri Consumer Health Care WATCH
Rowel (Reform Organization of Welfare) Education Association, St. Louis
Sisters of Mercy-St. Louis
St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America

NEVADA

Nevada Health Care Reform Project

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Citizens Alliance

NEW JERSEY

Bon Secours New Jersey Health System, Jersey City
New Jersey Immigrant Policy Network, Newark
NORWESCAP WIC Program, Phillipsbury
St. Joseph's W.I.C. Program, Patterson

NEW MEXICO

Family Voices, Algodones
Health Action New Mexico

NEW YORK

Bon Secours Charity Health System, Suffern
Bronx Community Health Network, Inc.
Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, New York
Citizen Action of New York, Albany
Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York
Greater Upstate Law Project, Inc., Albany
Long Island Progressive Coalition, Massapequa
Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign, New York
Multicultural Association of Medical Interpreters of Central New York, Utica
National Association of Korean Americans, New York Chapter
New School University, New York
New York Immigration Coalition
Public Health Association of New York City
State Communities Aid Association, Albany

United Neighborhood Houses, New York
Utica Citizens in Action, Utica
Women's City Club of New York, New York

NORTH CAROLINA

A Child's Place, Charlotte
Advocacy for the Poor, Inc., Winston-Salem
Caswell CARES, Yanceyville
Committee to Defend Health Care, Durham
El Centro Latino, Inc., Raleigh
Independent Living Resources, Inc., Durham
Lexington Pediatric Clinic, Lexington
North Carolina Fair Share
North Carolina Health Access Coalition
Parent-to-Parent FSN of the High Country, Boone
United Family Services, Charlotte

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Progressive Coalition
Ransom County Public Health Department, Lisbon

OHIO

Asian American Community Services, Columbus
Children's Defense Fund, Greater Cincinnati Project, Cincinnati
Children's Hospital - Columbus
Coalition for Greater Cleveland's Children, Cleveland
Unicare, Cleveland
Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio (UHCAN Ohio), Cleveland
Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio (UHCAN Ohio), Columbus
Women's Cancer Initiative, Columbus

OKLAHOMA

Asian American Community Service Association, Tulsa
Mercy Memorial Health Center

OREGON

Blue Panthers, Eagle Point
Catholic Charities Immigration Services, Portland
NAACP-Corvallis Branch, Corvallis
Oregon Center for Public Policy, Silverton
Oregon Health Action Campaign
Oregon Public Health Association
Wasco Sherman County Health Department, The Dalles

PENNSYLVANIA

AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania
Asian American Health Care Network, Philadelphia
Automated Health Systems, Pittsburgh
Bon Secours-Holy Family Hospital, Altoona
Coalition for the Welfare of Women & Children, Philadelphia
Every Child, Inc., Pittsburgh
Maternity Care Coalition, Philadelphia
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
United Cerebral Palsy of Pennsylvania, Camp Hill

RHODE ISLAND

Coalition for Consumer Justice
Ocean State Action
Town of South Kingston Welfare Department, Wakefield

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center
South Carolina Fair Share

TENNESSEE

Family Voices of Tennessee
Tennessee Justice Center

TEXAS

A Vision for Children Center, San Antonio
Action NOW!, Austin
Children's Defense Fund-Texas
Center for Public Policy Priorities
Family Health Foundation, San Antonio
Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center, El Paso
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law of Texas,
Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project
Mental Health Association in Texas, Austin
National Association of Social Workers, Texas Chapter
Patients' Assistance League, Austin
Political Asylum Project of Austin
Texas Alliance for Human Needs, Austin
Texas Immigrant and Refugee Coalition, Austin
University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas

UTAH

Community Health Centers, Inc., Salt Lake City
Utah Issues: Center for Poverty Research & Action, Salt Lake City

VIRGINIA

Bon Secours Maryview Medical Center, Norfolk
Bon Secours Richmond Health System, Richmond
Virginia Poverty Law Center

WASHINGTON

Asian Counseling & Referral Service, Seattle
Castanares Consulting, White Salmon
Central America Concerns Committee, Seattle
Children's Alliance-Washington
Children's Home Society of Washington, Seattle
Fremont Public Association Seattle
New Citizen Initiative, City of Seattle
Newcomer Community Service Center
Northwest Federation of Community Organizations, Seattle
Northwest Health Law Advocates, Seattle
Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition, Seattle

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Health Kids Coalition, Charleston

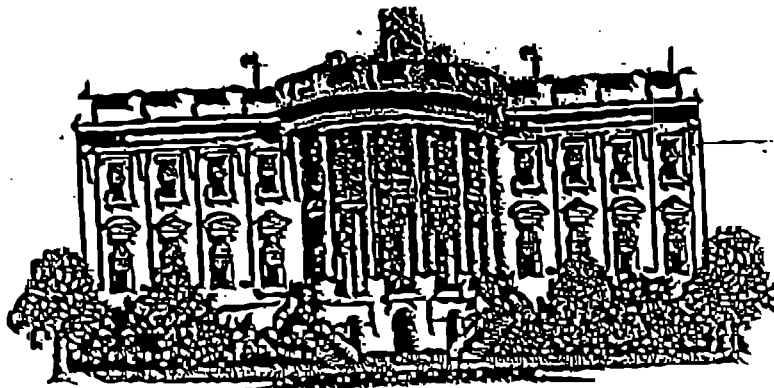
WISCONSIN

ABC for Health, Inc., Madison
Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Madison

- To identify the rationale, business and ethical paradigms that companies need to effectively promote growth, diversity and fairness in a multicultural marketplace
- To recommend practical guidelines that will help individual companies manage against those paradigms to achieve their goals
- To identify industry-wide initiatives that will be needed to support widespread adoption and successful implementation of these principles and practices

Corporate Participation on Committee

The identity of companies and their representatives has been confidential. This information will be revealed publicly during the national roll out of the Principles and Practices. A team of co-chairs represent four key industry business segments: National advertiser, general market agencies; minority advertising agencies; and minority media. They are: Procter & Gamble Global Marketing Officer Robert L. Wehling; True North Communications Chairman David Bell; The Chisholm-Mingo Group Chairman and CEO Samuel Chisholm; Spanish Broadcasting System President Raul Alarcon. Advertisers included DaimlerChrysler, Johnson & Johnson, Kraft and Kellogg's. Global ad agencies included D'Arcy, DDB Worldwide and Leo Burnett. Minority agencies included Don Coleman & Associates, La Agencia de Orca & Asociados. Minority media included BET, Essence Communications and black newspapers.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Domestic Policy Council

DATE: 10/26

FACSIMILE FOR: Irene Bueno

FAX: 61907

PHONE: _____

FACSIMILE FROM: Margy Waller

FAX: 202-456-7431

PHONE: 202-456-5586

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 2

COMMENTS:

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PAGE 2/3

OCT. 25. 2000 10:06AM

NO. 1013 P. 2

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2000

Bush - Cheney 2000
PO Box 1902
Austin, TX 78767

Dear Governor Bush:

On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I write to express our concern about the well-being of working families and respectfully ask you to publicly support and issue a statement in favor of restoring access to important health care and nutrition programs to legal immigrant children and pregnant women. We know you are very familiar with the circumstances of these individuals since you represent a state with a significant immigrant population. Therefore, we urge you to declare your support for the Legal Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (S. 1227, H.R. 4707) and the Hunger Relief Act (S. 1805, H.R. 3192).

The Legal Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (S. 1227, H.R. 4707) would give states the option to cover all lawfully present immigrant children and pregnant women through their Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP). This option would have enormous public health benefits by providing health insurance to 144,000 children and 33,000 pregnant women per year. It would also ensure that states' funding replacement programs are fairly reimbursed and that the federal government shares in this responsibility.

The Hunger Relief Act (S. 1805, H.R. 3192) improves our nation's food stamp program and seeks to restore food stamp eligibility to qualified legal immigrants affected by the 1996 welfare law. Although portions of this Act have been addressed this year by Congress, we believe it is critical that the provision restoring food stamp eligibility to legal immigrants also be addressed since the current restrictions unfairly impact the children of parents who are denied food stamps. These hard-working, tax-paying families should be able to rely on this basic assistance from our nation's safety-net system in a time of need.

As a candidate for the highest office in our nation, your public support for restoring benefits to legal permanent residents is important and would give a needed boost to on-going efforts to enact both proposals this year. The proposals have tremendous bipartisan support - including the support of your brother and Florida Governor, Jeb Bush. We urge you to issue a public statement in favor of enactment of the Legal Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act and the Hunger Relief Act, so that access to basic health care and food stamps for legal permanent residents become a reality before Congress adjourns.

We believe these measures are critical to ensuring the well being of all American families. We hope to work with you to secure the immediate passage of these proposals.

Sincerely,

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus

761907

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 26, 2000

Dear Mr. Leader:

Thank you for your letter yesterday responding to my proposed consensus tax package. As I said yesterday, I believe we all have a responsibility to make every possible effort to come together on a bipartisan agreement on tax relief and Medicare/Medicaid that will maintain fiscal discipline and serve the interests of all the American people. That is why I put forward a good faith offer yesterday that sought to reflect our differing priorities in a balanced manner. I was disappointed, however, that, without any consultation with me or Congressional Democrats, you chose to put forward a partisan legislative package that ignores our key concerns on school construction, health care, and pensions policy. If this current tax and Medicare/Medicaid package is presented to me, I will have no choice but to veto it.

While we have already reached substantial agreement in important areas, such as replacement of the Foreign Sales Corporations regime, your legislation has substantial flaws in several key areas.

As I stated yesterday, I believe it is absolutely essential that we do as much as possible to meet America's need for safe and modern schools. It is estimated that there may be as much as a \$125 billion dollar financing gap in meeting the school construction and modernization needs of our children. The bipartisan Rangel-Johnson proposal to finance \$25 billion in bonds to construct and modernize 6,000 schools is, quite frankly, the very least we should do, given the magnitude of this problem and its importance to America's future. Unfortunately, your proposal falls far short of the mark. We should not sacrifice thousands of modernized schools to pay for inefficient tax incentives that help only a few. For example, the arbitrage provision encourages delay in urgently needed school construction and would disproportionately help wealthy school districts.

On health care, my offer sought to lay a path to common ground by coupling both of our priorities on health and long-term care. Unfortunately, your health care proposal completely ignores our proposal to cover millions of uninsured, working Americans. Instead you put forward a series of tax cuts that, particularly when standing alone, would be inequitable, inefficient, and even potentially counterproductive health care policy. For example, while our FamilyCare proposal would expand coverage to 4 million uninsured parents at a cost of slightly over \$3,000 per person, your proposal would provide additional coverage to one-seventh the people at six times the cost per person. Moreover, your proposal would give the least assistance to moderate-income families that need help the most, while even raising concerns that those with employer-based coverage today could lose their insurance.

Similarly, on long-term care, I offered to embrace your proposed deduction for long-term care insurance in exchange for inclusion of my proposal to give families, who are burdened today by long-term care needs, a \$3,000 tax credit. Unfortunately, your legislation ignores the bipartisan package I suggested and instead would provide half the benefits of my proposal for financially pressed families trying to provide long-term care for elderly and sick family members. Surely we can agree on this bipartisan compromise that has already been endorsed by a broad array of members of Congress, advocates for seniors and people with disabilities, and insurers. Similarly, I am perplexed that we cannot agree to include the bipartisan credit for vaccine research and purchases that is essential to save lives and advance public health.

I also am disappointed that you have made virtually no attempt to address the concerns my Administration has expressed to you about the pension provisions of your bill. By dropping the progressive savings incentives from the Senate Finance Committee bill, you have failed to address the lack of pension coverage for over 70 million people. Moreover, employers may have new incentives to drop pension coverage for some of the low- and moderate-income workers lucky enough to have pension plans today.

Finally, I remain deeply concerned that your Medicare and Medicaid refinement proposal continues to fail to attach accountability provisions to excessive payment increases to health maintenance organizations (HMOs) while rejecting critical investments in beneficiaries and vulnerable health care providers. Specifically, you insist on an unjustifiable spending increase for HMOs at the same time as you exclude bipartisan policies such as health insurance options for

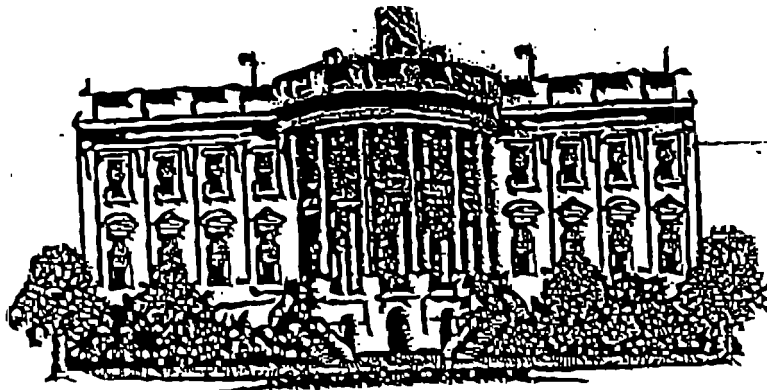
children with disabilities, legal immigrant pregnant women and children, and enrolling uninsured children in schools, as well as needed payment increases to hospitals, academic health centers, home health agencies, and other vulnerable providers. Congress should not go home without responding to the urgent health needs of our seniors, people with disabilities, and children and the health care providers who serve them.

A far better path than the current one is for Congressional Republicans, Democrats, and my Administration to come together in a bipartisan process to find common ground on both tax relief and Medicare/Medicaid refinements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Honorable Trent Lott
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Christina
H0

Andrea Hau

THE WHITE HOUSE

Maureen Shea
Brian BarretoBarbara Chow
Domestic Policy Council

DATE: 10/20/00

Joanne Slaney
Mark Magana
Jennifer Friedman
Jack Smaligan
Irene Bueno

FACSIMILE FOR:

FAX: 6-2878, 6-6468, 6-2604, 5-0851, 5-0851, 6-1907
PHONE:

FACSIMILE FROM: Margy Waller

FAX: 202-456-7431

PHONE: 202-456-5586

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 17

COMMENTS:

Congressional activity on
Food Stamps for legal immigrants

OCT. -19' 00 (THU) 15:10

US SENATE HELP CMTE

TEL: 202 224 5128

P. 002

from the office of
Senator Edward M. Kennedy
of Massachusetts

**STATEMENT OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY
ON RESTORATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR
FOOD STAMPS TO LEGAL IMMIGRANTS**

For Immediate Release
October 19, 2000

Contact: Jim Manley
(202) 224-2633

It's a scandal that so many legal immigrant families and their children are living in hunger. That's unacceptable, or America isn't America.

Restoring food stamp eligibility for these families should be a no-brainer, even for this Do-Nothing Republican Congress. How can any member of Congress say, "Let them eat cake—for them go hungry?"

--30--

OCT. -19 00(THU) 15:10

US SENATE HELP CMTE

TEL:202 224 5128

P. 003

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 19, 2000

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to thank you for your leadership in the effort to restore eligibility for food stamp benefits to lawful immigrants, and to urge your continued support for enactment of the immigrant provisions of the Hunger Relief Act (S.1805, H.R. 3192) as part of the current budget negotiations.

Nearly 1,400 national, state, and local organizations in all 50 states have called for restoration of food stamp eligibility for all legal immigrants, as have the National Conference of State Legislatures, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the nation's religious community, editorial boards of fifteen newspapers, and thousands upon thousands of constituents.

Christina Hyder, a second grade teacher at Carole Highlands Elementary School in Prince Georges County, Maryland has students from Bosnia, Cameroon and Guatemala—from poor families unable to stretch their meager resources any further—who come to school so hungry that they are unable to learn. Her experience is corroborated nationally. Physicians for Human Rights interviewed 700 Latino and Asian immigrant families, and found that adults in one of three households skipped meals, one in ten recalled not eating for at least one whole day during the past six months, and one in four cut the size of child meals due to inadequate resources.

Food insecurity is demonstrably associated with poor academic performance, and causes serious short and long-term health consequences. The financial burdens and the human cost of hunger are avoidable—and unacceptable—in our land.

In recent years, your leadership has helped to partially restore the safety net taken away from legal immigrants under welfare reform in 1996. With a strong effort, we can achieve our goal on this issue in the remaining days before Congress adjourns.

Sincerely,



Oct-18-00 11:48

From:HON Eva CLAYTON

2022253354

T-528 P.02/07 F-262

EVA M. CLAYTON
1st DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINACOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURESUBCOMMITTEES:
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, OVERSIGHT,
NUTRITION, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS
RURAL WOMEN
GENERAL FOOD COMMODITIES, RESOURCES,
CONSERVATION, AND CARE

BUDGET

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-0711
EClayton@lamar.house.gov**Congress of the United States**
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3301**Part of the Hunger Relief Act is in Agriculture Appropriations**
Let's Push for Other Parts!

Wednesday, October 18, 2000

Dear Democratic Colleagues:

I write to urge you to join me in sending the annexed letter to the President, asking that he push for inclusion of other parts of the Hunger Relief Act as part of the end-of-the-year budget negotiations.

As you know, the Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report, passed by the House last week, includes two important provisions from the Hunger Relief Act. We changed the vehicle limit, so that families can retain a reliable car, without losing food stamp benefits. And, we changed the shelter cap, so that families can obtain decent shelter, without losing food stamp benefits.

With our push, and the President's help, we can restore Food Stamp benefits for all legal immigrants and include funding for commodity purchases and food distribution, thus effectively completing passage of the Hunger Relief Act.

Nutrition programs are essential to the well-being of millions of our citizens --- the disadvantaged, our children, the elderly and the disabled. These are groups of people who often can not provide for themselves and need help for existence. They do not ask much. Just a little help to sustain them through the day. Just a little help to ensure that our infants grow, to keep children alert in class or help adults be productive on their jobs or as they search for jobs.

If you wish to sign the letter to the President, call Johnny Barnes of my staff at 63101. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eva M. Clayton
Member of CongressDISTRICT OFFICE
Wendell Commons Shopping Center
Route 7, Suite 2
P.O. Box 670
Asheboro, NC 27883
(252) 452-1822
Fax: (252) 456-2611DISTRICT OFFICE:
405 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE
SUITE 108
GREENSBORO, NC 27404
(252) 734-8800
T-200-274-8872
Fax: (252) 734-1081

Oct-19-00 11:47

From:WON EVA CLAYTON

2022253354

T-528 P.03/07 F-262

October 19, 2000

**The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500**

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to thank you for your leadership in the fight to restore food stamp benefits to lawfully present immigrants and urge your continued support for the inclusion of the immigrant provisions of the Hunger Relief Act (S.1805, H.R. 3192) in any end game negotiations.

We would like to call your attention to a recent statement made by Christina Hyder, a second grade teacher at Carole Highlands Elementary School in Prince Georges County, Maryland. Her students come from a wide array of countries including Bosnia, Cameroon and Guatemala. Most of the students come from poor families unable to pull their meager resources any further. Students come to school so hungry that they are unable to learn.

Unfortunately, the problems these immigrant students face is not uncommon. A recent study by Physicians for Human Rights documented the unexpectedly high number of both lawfully present adults and children, who were forced to cut the size of their meals, skip meals and not eat for a whole day. Studies have shown that hunger and food insecurity are associated with poor academic performance can cause serious short and long-term health consequences. The financial burdens and the loss in human capital caused by hunger are avoidable.

Fortunately for the students, Carole Highlands Elementary has the resources and the foresight to meet the needs of these students. But Carole Highlands is the exception not the rule.

Since 1996, your efforts have helped us to partially realize your promise to restore the safety net benefits taken away from lawfully present immigrants under the welfare bill. But our job is not done. We are counting on your resolve on this issue in the remaining days before Congress adjourns.



Bread for the World

Seeking Justice. Ending Hunger.

To: Margy & Christina

From: Lyrette

RE: Republican letters

The religious leader letter was also sent to Daschle & Gephardt & Bonior. I've only attached the Lott & Hastert letter.

Also attached is the Specter/Walsh letter — we're gathering sigs today.

Lyrette

"When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

Leviticus 19:33-34

October 16, 2000

Senator Trent Lott
Senate Majority Leader
S-230 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510-7010

Dear Senator Lott:

As this congressional term nears its end, we ask you to make restoration of food stamp eligibility for low-income legal immigrants a top priority. As people of faith, we deeply believe that legal immigrants should have the same access to the Food Stamp Program as citizens of our country.

Outrage for the plight of people living in poverty and concern for the powerless are central themes in our religious traditions. God cares deeply for the needy. We are a richly blessed nation. Yet, despite the booming economy, despite all that religious communities and charities do to end hunger, 31 million people in the United States still live in households that struggle with hunger. The persistence of widespread hunger in this country is immoral and is a serious challenge for both our government and the faith communities.

At a time of great prosperity, the United States should devote some of its wealth to strengthen the nation's number one defense against hunger – the federal Food Stamp Program. The House has passed and the Senate is poised to pass two of three food stamp provisions included in the bipartisan Hunger Relief Act (S. 1805/H.R. 3192) as part of the Agriculture Appropriations conference report. For this we are deeply grateful. A full food stamp restoration for legal immigrants is not among the Hunger Relief Act provisions included in the agriculture spending bill. Low-income legal immigrants work hard and pay taxes alongside U.S. citizens. They deserve our attention, especially when they are struggling to meet such a basic need of food.

Recently released USDA statistics show that immigrant participation in the federal Food Stamp Program fell drastically between 1994 and 1998. The largest decline by far was among lawful permanent resident immigrants, whose participation in the Food Stamp Program went down by 83 percent. Even more alarming was a 75 percent drop in the participation of U.S. born children of legal immigrants.

-2-

Senator Lott, we need your leadership on this most vital issue. The cuts in benefits to legal immigrants enacted in 1996 were too extreme. Now is the time to right this wrong and ensure that low-income legal immigrants who fall on hard times do not go hungry.

Faithfully,

The Rev. H. George Anderson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. David Beckmann
President
Bread for the World

The Rev. Peter Borgdorff
Executive Director of Ministries
Christian Reformed Church

Dr. Clive Calver
President
World Relief

The Rev. Kenneth L. Carder
Bishop, Mississippi Area
United Methodist Church

Dr. Leonard Cole
Chairman
Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Ralston H. Deffenbaugh Jr.
President
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Rabbi Steven M. Dworkin
Executive Vice President
Rabbinical Council of America

Rabbi Jerome M. Epstein
Executive Vice President
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

The Most Rev. Joseph A. Fiorenza
Bishop of Galveston-Houston
President, United States Catholic Conference

The Rev. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson
General Secretary
Reformed Church in America

Neil Greenbaum, Esq.
President
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold
Presiding Bishop and Primate
Episcopal Church USA

Rabbi Kenneth N. Hain
President
Rabbinical Council of America

Fr. Fred Kammer, SJ
President
Catholic Charities USA

The Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Rabbi Charles Kroloff
President
Central Conference of American Rabbis

Rabbi Eugene H. Levy
Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock, AR

-3-

Joanne Negstad
President/CEO
Lutheran Services in America

The Rev. José Ortiz
Executive Director
Mennonite Central Committee U.S.

Rabbi David Saperstein
Director
Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Rabbi Arthur Schneier
*Senior Rabbi, Park East Synagogue, and
President, Appeal of Conscience Foundation*

Bryan Sickbert
Executive Director
Council for Health and Human Service
Ministries, United Church of Christ

The Rev. John Thomas
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie
President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
President
Hebrew-Union College, Jewish Institute of
Religion

cc: **Dave Hoppe**
Jim Hecht

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October 16, 2000

Congressman Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515-6501

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Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie
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Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
President
Hebrew-Union College, Jewish Institute of
Religion

cc: Scott Palmer
Theodore J. Van Der Meid

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2000

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for cosponsoring the Hunger Relief Act (S 1805/HR 3192). As this legislative season draws to a close, we urge you to join us in signing the attached letter to the leadership in support of a restoration of food stamp benefits to legal immigrants as contained within Title I of the Hunger Relief Act.

As you know, on October 6 the House approved Titles II and III of the Hunger Relief Act as part of the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture Appropriations conference report. The Senate passed the conference report on October 18. Under current law, most food stamp recipients cannot own a car worth more than \$4,650 - a limit that has increased by only \$150 since 1977. Low-income people often must choose between getting food stamps or owning a reliable car to drive to work. Likewise, current law caps high housing costs in a way that unfairly limits food stamp benefits for families, especially those with children. The new provisions will allow states to set their own car expense limit. The housing limit will be raised over five years, allowing an estimated 775,000 households to receive modestly higher food stamp benefits.

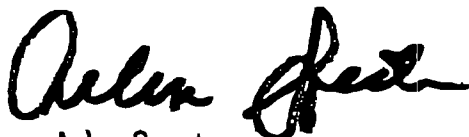
While we are very pleased that these initial steps have been taken to pass the Hunger Relief Act, there is still important work to be done.

Title I of the Hunger Relief Act was not included in the conference report. This provision would restore food stamp eligibility to all qualified legal immigrants. The current restrictions on food stamps bar most legal immigrants from participation in the Food Stamp Program, even though many work and pay taxes. Many citizen children are unfairly impacted by this restriction because their parents are denied food stamps.

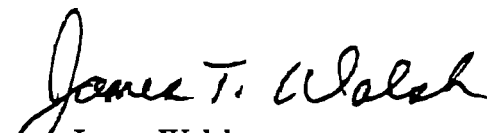
The restoration of food stamps for legal immigrants would be an enormous victory for hard-working, low-income legal immigrants who struggle to make ends meet.

Please join us in sending the attached bicameral letter to our leadership. To sign on to this letter, contact Tom Dower at 4-9027, or Ron Anderson at 5-3701.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter



James Walsh

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Lott/Representative Hastert:

We are writing to reiterate our support for an important provision that was originally included in the bipartisan Hunger Relief Act – the restoration of food stamp eligibility to lawfully present immigrants. The Hunger Relief Act has strong bipartisan support with 219 cosponsors. In addition, over 1400 religious, anti-hunger, nutrition, and immigrant groups from around the country have endorsed the Hunger Relief Act.

Since the passage of the 1996 welfare reform law, more than 2 million legal permanent resident immigrants, and U.S. citizen children of immigrants have dropped out of the Food Stamp Program. This drop in participation has far outpaced the decline in poverty, forcing families to cut the size of their meals, skip meals and sometimes not eat for a whole day.

These restrictions have undermined some of the most important goals of the 1996 welfare reform law because they have primarily hurt working parents struggling to make ends meet. Among those most affected by the cuts are hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizen children of lawfully present immigrants, who have been prevented from obtaining assistance by the general level of fear and confusion in immigrant communities about who is eligible for assistance.

There is no justification for continuing to deny these families the assistance they need, particularly in this time of unparalleled prosperity. The taxes necessary to pay for immigrant food stamps are already being paid by immigrants themselves. In fact, based on National Academy of Sciences figures, we now reap a \$50 billion annual surplus from taxes paid by immigrants to all levels of government minus expenses attributable to immigrants. These immigrant funds help us meet national priorities such as paying down the national debt and extending the life of Social Security. The food stamps restoration we urge would cause less than 0.25 percent of these immigrant funds to be returned more directly to the immigrant communities from which they came.

For these reasons, we hope that you work with us to ensure passage of the Hunger Relief Act immigrant provisions when they arise as part of the final budget negotiations.

Sincerely,

Reforming welfare reform

Don't deny child immigrants needed medicine

By Bob Graham and
Lincoln Diaz-Balart

Our classrooms are filled with children who are citizens, children from families who have been in the United States for decades, and children who are recent, legal immigrants. All of these children study together and play together, and often speak the same language.

But if Congress doesn't act soon, come cold and flu season it may be easy to pick the legal immigrant children out of a crowd. Maybe they'll be coughing more than most kids. They may look tired, or like they need a tissue and a hug. Maybe they'll miss school no often to catch up.

By virtue of having arrived in this country after Aug. 22, 1996, these children are not eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the government's health insurance programs for the poor and for working families.

That means many of these children will not get the prescription cough syrup, antibiotics and other expensive treatments that can mean the difference between a minor illness and one that is life-threatening.

The 1996 welfare reform law cut off many government services for legal immigrants. Gradually, however, Congress has taken steps away from this unfortunate provision. First, we restored disability payments (SSI); then we gave states the option of restoring Medicaid or CHIP to pregnant women and legal immigrant children who arrived in this country before the law went into effect. But more needs to be done.

New census data show the

number of Americans without health insurance fell from 44.3 million to 42.6 million in 1999. This is the first decline since 1987, and this is good news.

Still, the proportion of immigrant children who are uninsured remains extremely high. A new report by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities shows that in the last year, nearly half of low-income immigrant children in America had no health insurance coverage.

The Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act, backed by a bipartisan group of lawmakers in both houses of Congress, would give states the option of restoring Medicaid and CHIP to legal immigrant pregnant women and children. Despite widespread support, this common-sense, humane and fiscally responsible legislation is in grave danger of being left behind as Congress hurries to wrap up its final business and head home to campaign.

Some in Congress oppose the provision on the grounds that the welfare reform law removed legal immigrants from the health rolls for a reason.

There was reason — money. By limiting the number of people eligible for Medicaid and CHIP, the federal government was able to save billions of dollars. This provision had nothing to do with the overall worthy goals of welfare reform — encouraging self-reliance and self-sufficiency and discouraging single parenthood. There is also no evidence that legal immigrants come to the United States for health benefits.

In fact, in the last decade, immigrants have been moving south from high-benefit states like California and New York to low-benefit states like North Carolina and Virginia. There is also no denying that the money to cover this population of approximately 200,000 per year is available if we choose to use it this way.

The truth is, covering kids and pregnant women is not only humane. It is fiscally responsible. Struggling hospitals, most of them public, bear the brunt of providing uncompensated emergency room care for children without health insurance whose families can't afford to pay. Taxpayers may eventually wind up paying the health care costs of citizen children born prematurely or sick because their legal immigrant mothers could not get prenatal care.

American citizens may also reap unexpected benefits if all legal immigrant children get covered. Giving states the option to provide health insurance coverage to newly arrived legal immigrant children would help states in their efforts to enroll more low-income children who are already eligible for help but are unaware. States could simplify their child application and enrollment procedures by dispensing with complex immigrant eligibility determinations.

These eligibility determinations are so complex because they are nonsensical. They rely on a seemingly magical cut-off date and the whim of some who seem to forget that we are a nation of immigrants.

Despite widespread support, this common-sense, humane and fiscally responsible legislation to give states the option of restoring Medicaid and CHIP to legal immigrant pregnant women and children is in grave danger of being left behind.

Bob Graham, a Democrat, is Florida's senior U.S. senator. Republican Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart represents Florida's 21st District.



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS HOUSE LIAISON

112 East Wing
Office phone: 456-6620
Office fax: 456-2604

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: 10-25-2000

TO: Chuck Brain, Chris Jennings, Jake Siewert, Irene Bueno

FAX: 66220, 65557, 66423,
61907

PHONE: _____

FROM: ☒ LISA KOUNToupES
☐ MARK MAGANA
☐ JOSH ACKIL
☐ REBECCA WALLDORFF

☐ MARTY HOFFMANN
☐ ERICA MORRIS
☐ BRIAN MASON
☐ GERALD LIPPERT

Comments: Clayton Ht on immigrants and Hunger Relief Act.

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2000

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to thank you for your leadership in the fight to restore food stamp benefits to lawfully present immigrants and urge your continued support for the inclusion of the immigrant provisions of the Hunger Relief Act (S.1805, H.R. 3192) in any end game negotiations.

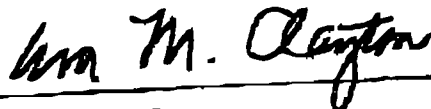
We would like to call your attention to a recent statement made by Christina Hyder, a second grade teacher at Carole Highlands Elementary School in Prince Georges County, Maryland. Her students come from a wide array of countries including Bosnia, Cameroon and Guatemala. Most of the students come from poor families unable to pull their meager resources any further. Students come to school so hungry that they are unable to learn.

Unfortunately, the problems these immigrant students face is not uncommon. A recent study by Physicians for Human Rights documented the unexpectedly high number of both lawfully present adults and children, who were forced to cut the size of their meals, skip meals and not eat for a whole day. Studies have shown that hunger and food insecurity are associated with poor academic performance can cause serious short and long-term health consequences. The financial burdens and the loss in human capital caused by hunger are avoidable.

Fortunately for the students, Carole Highlands Elementary has the resources and the foresight to meet the needs of these students. But Carole Highlands is the exception not the rule.

Since 1996, your efforts have helped us to partially realize your promise to restore the safety net benefits taken away from lawfully present immigrants under the welfare bill. But our job is not done. We are counting on your resolve on this issue in the remaining days before Congress adjourns.

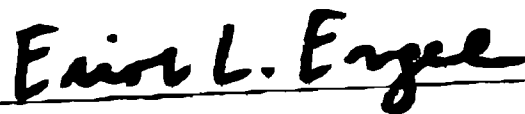
Sincerely,



Eva M. Clayton



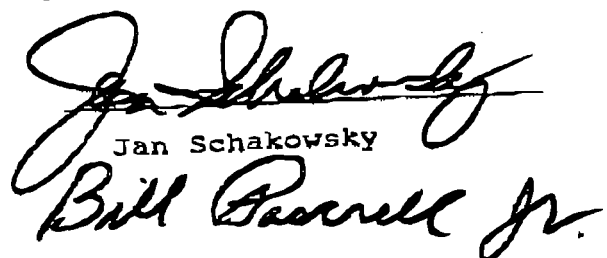
Albert R. Wynn



Eliot L. Engel



Julia M. Carson



Jan Schakowsky



William J. Pascrell, Jr.

Pete Stark

Fortney Pete Stark

Jerrold Nadler

Jerrold Nadler

Jim McGovern

Jim McGovern

Earl Blumenauer

Earl Blumenauer

Luis V. Gutierrez

Luis V. Gutierrez

Barbara Lee

Barbara Lee

Robert T. Matsui

Robert T. Matsui

Nydia M. Velazquez

Nydia M. Velazquez

Xavier Becerra

Xavier Becerra

Sam Farr

Sam Farr

George Miller

George Miller

John W. Olver

John W. Olver

Bob Filner

Bob Filner

Howard L. Berman

Howard L. Berman

Robert Menendez

Robert Menendez

Tammy Baldwin

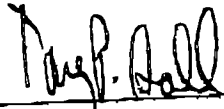
Tammy Baldwin

Donald M. Payne

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Stephanie Tubbs Jones

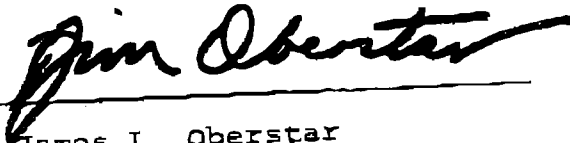
Stephanie Tubbs Jones



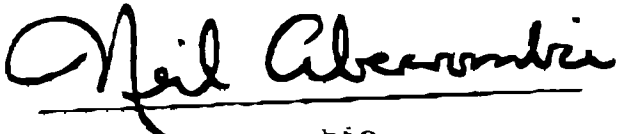
Tony P. Hall



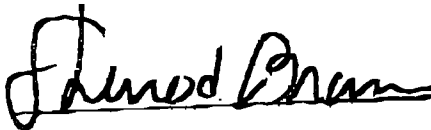
Benjamin L. Cardin



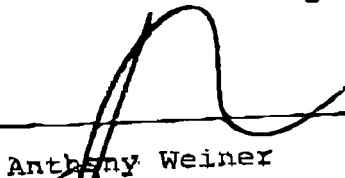
James L. Oberstar



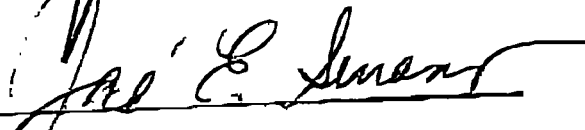
Neil Abercrombie



Sherrod Brown



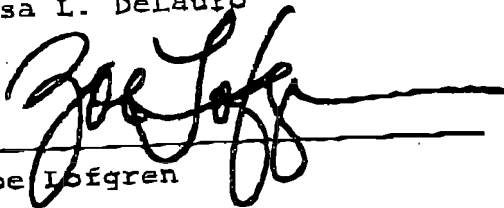
Anthony Weiner



Jose' E. Serrano



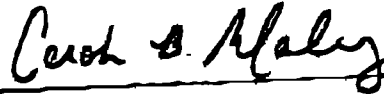
Rosa L. DeLauro



Zoe Lofgren



Ted Strickland



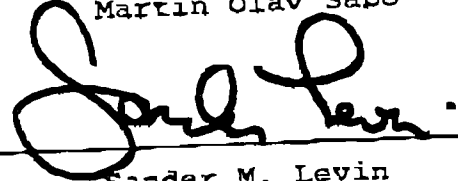
Carolyn B. Maloney



Lucille Roybal-Allard



Martin Olav Sabo



Sander M. Levin



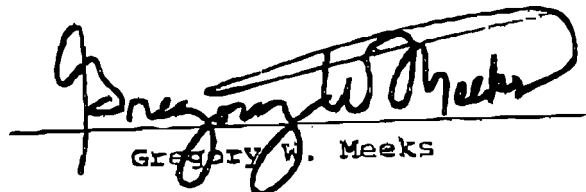
Silvestre Reyes



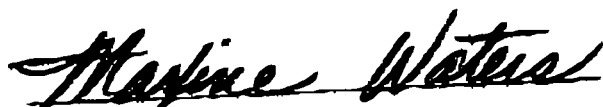
Carrie Meek

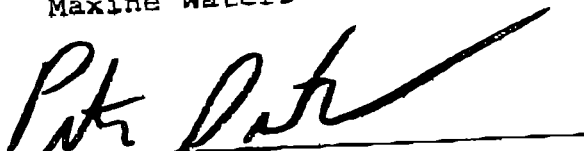


Danny K. Davis



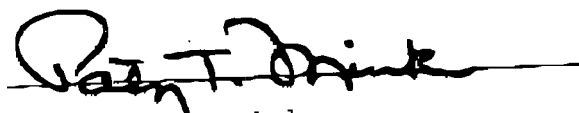
Gregory W. Meeks

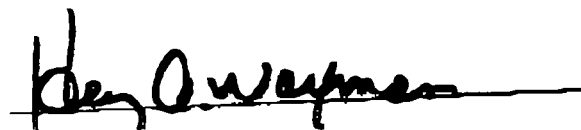

Maxine Waters


Peter Deutsch

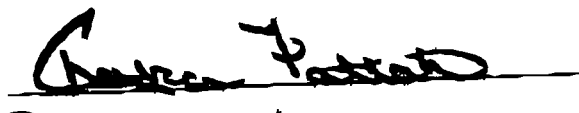

Martin T. Meehan

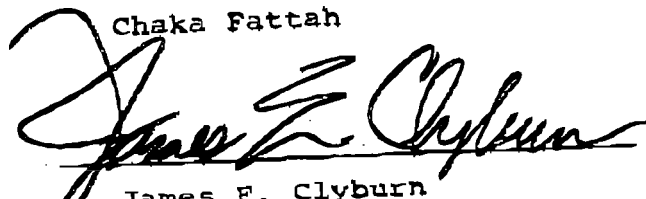

Nancy Pelosi

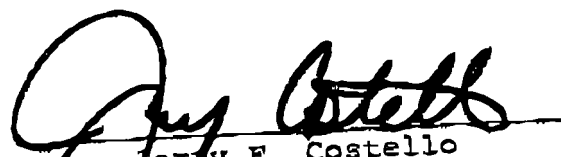

Patsy Mink

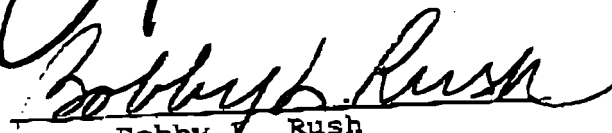

Henry A. Waxman


Eleanor Holmes Norton

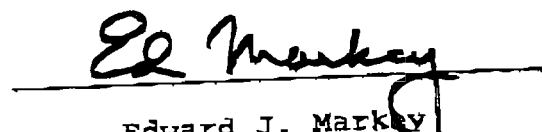

Chaka Fattah


James E. Clyburn

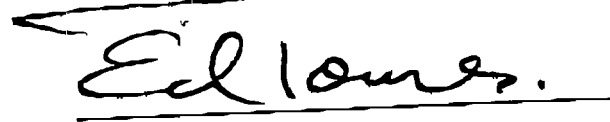

Jerry F. Costello


Bobby L. Rush

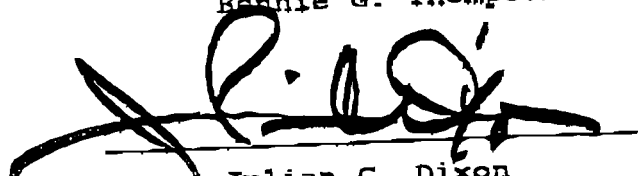

Tom Lantos

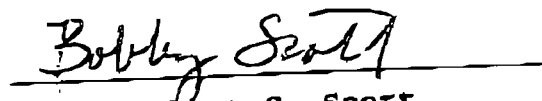

Edward J. Markey


Tom Sawyer


Edolphus Towns


Bennie G. Thompson


Julian C. Dixon


Robert C. Scott

Lynn Woolsey
Lynn Woolsey

Eli E Cummings
Elijah E. Cummings

Cynthia McKinney
Cynthia McKinney

Maurice D. Hinchey
Maurice D. Hinchey

Karen L. Thurman
Karen L. Thurman

John M. Spratt, Jr.
John M. Spratt, Jr.

Dale E. Kildee
Dale E. Kildee

David Minge
David Minge

Ciro D. Rodriguez
Ciro D. Rodriguez

Melvin Watt
Melvin Watt

Margy Kaptur
Margy Kaptur

Louise M. Slaughter
Louise M. Slaughter

Charles W. Stenholm
Charles W. Stenholm

Ed Pastor
Ed Pastor

Charles B. Rangel
Charles B. Rangel

Thomas M. Barrett
Thomas M. Barrett

Michael R. McNulty
Michael R. McNulty

Robert A. Brady
Robert A. Brady

Major R. Owens
Major R. Owens

William J. Jefferson
William J. Jefferson

Earl F. Hilliard
Earl F. Hilliard

Patrick J. Kennedy
Patrick J. Kennedy

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Eddie Bernice Johnson

Juanita Millener-McDonald
Juanita Millener-McDonald

Karen McCarthy
Karen McCarthy

Robert A. Borski
Robert A. Borski

David Wu
David Wu

Mark Udall
Mark Udall

Barney Frank
Barney Frank

Max Sandlin
Max Sandlin

Parlene Hooley
Parlene Hooley

Tim Maloney
Tim Maloney

John Tierney
John Tierney

Shelia Jackson Lee
Shelia Jackson Lee

David E. Price
David E. Price

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Frank Pallone, Jr.

William D. Delahunt
William D. Delahunt

Nita M. Lowey
Nita M. Lowey

Martin Frost
Martin Frost

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Anna G. Eshoo
Anna G. Eshoo

Charles A. Gonzalez
Charles A. Gonzalez

John Joseph Moakley
John Joseph Moakley

Richard E. Neal
Richard E. Neal

Michael E. Capuano
Michael E. Capuano

Grace F. Napolitano
Grace F. Napolitano

Corrine Brown
Corrine Brown

Robert Wexler
Robert Wexler