

SUMMARY

S. 435: Healthy Children's Pilot Program Act of 1997 Senator Arlen Specter

- **Block Grant:** States get block grants to provider vouchers to uninsured children
- **Federal Funding:** \$10 billion in grants over five years (\$3.65 billion by 2002). States get the amount that the Secretary estimates is needed to provide subsidies, pro-rated to sum to expenditure cap.
- **State Funding:** None; Medicaid and state kids' program maintenance of effort but states may chose to use new grant to buy out old program
- **How It's Financed:** "Healthy Children's Trust Fund" financed by the sale of Federal spectrum assets (broadcast and nonbroadcast).
- **Eligibility:** Children (citizens or lawful, permanent residents) up to 235 percent of poverty with no access to Medicaid or employer-based insurance. Phased in:
 - In 1998: planning grants
 - In 1999: children age 0 to 5 years old
 - In 2000: children 6 to 8 years old
 - In 2001: children 9 to 12 years old
 - By 2002: children under age 18
- **Assistance Amount:** Kids with income below 185 percent of poverty: full assistance

Kids with income between 185 and 235 percent of poverty, partial assistance

Secretary determined the amount of the voucher
- **Benefits:** Primary, preventive and acute care.
- **Health Plans:** No standards; family chooses with voucher.