

**Washington, DC** - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today issued the following statement in support of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, September 25, 2007 ☐☐

**Slaughter Issues Statement on House Passage of SCHIP**

*Legislation to Cover ☐ Nearly 4 Million Additional Children Nation-Wide*

**Washington, DC** - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today issued the following statement in support of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

**&quot;Today, I am extremely proud that the House of Representatives passed legislation that will ensure millions of our nation's children have access to essential health care,&quot;** said Rep. Slaughter. **&quot;It is imperative that the President sign SCHIP into law, because whether it is access to preventative health care like immunizations or access to timely treatment for an illness, the lives of millions of American children, including many in New York State, depend on it.&quot;**

**&quot;In New York State, 400,000 children are enrolled in SCHIP, the second highest state enrollment in the nation. And with our vote today, the House ensured an additional 268,000 children in our home state will have health care coverage. This bill is an important step to improving access to affordable, quality health care in our country,&quot;**  
ded Slaughter. conclu

**BACKGROUND: The State Children's Health Insurance Program**

- Congress created SCHIP in 1997 with broad bipartisan support. This year, six million children have health care because of SCHIP.

- Funding for SCHIP expires September 30. If Congress does not act, these six million children will no longer have access to health care coverage.

- Children enrolled in the SCHIP program come from working families with parents who either cannot afford health insurance or hold jobs do not provide health care benefits.

- Although the President highlighted his support for SCHIP while running for re-election in 2004, the Bush Administration and Congressional Republicans proposed to under-fund the program significantly. Millions of children would have lost coverage as a result.

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