October 10, 2007

Dear Representative:

On behalf of The United States Conference of Mayors, the nonpartisan national organization representing Mayors of cities with populations over 30,000, and the low-income children residing in those cities, we strongly urge you to override the Presidential veto of the bipartisan compromise bill to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In doing so, you will let the millions of children without health insurance know that you care about them.

The USCM Mayors’ 10-Point Plan, “Strong Cities, Strong Families for a Strong America” and our anti-poverty agenda calls on Congress and the Administration to address the needs of the millions of uninsured children, the millions more who are underinsured, and those who are at risk of joining the ranks of uninsured by reauthorizing and strengthening the very successful Children’s Health Insurance Program.

Congress joined in a bipartisan effort to craft legislation that will insure an additional 4 million children by providing an additional $35 billion over five years; improving access to benefits including dental and mental health parity; improving quality of care and providing incentives to lower the rate of uninsured low income children, by passing HR 976 and sending it to President Bush for his signature. President Bush said “no” and now it’s time for you to say, “Yes,” by voting to override his veto on October 18.

We need your help! The nation’s 10 million low income children are counting on you. Vote “Yes” for children! We urge you to vote to override the President’s veto and vote yes to giving children the health insurance they need and deserve. If you have questions, please contact Assistant Executive Director, Crystal Swann, at 202-861-6707.

Sincerely,

Douglas H. Palmer    Tom Cochran
Mayor of Trenton    Executive Director
President