
**Sign-On Form for Support of Texas CHIP Coalition Position
for the 78th (2003) Texas Legislative Session**

TEXAS CHIP COALITION

www.main.org/txchip

RETURN THIS FORM:

BY FAX: (512) 320-0927

BY EMAIL: jschat@onr.com

BY MAIL: c/o Children's Hospital Association of Texas
823 Congress Avenue, Suite 1500, Austin, TX 78701

QUESTIONS: Phone (512) 320-0910

**Our organization wishes to be listed as a member of the Texas CHIP Coalition
and in support of the Coalition's position for the upcoming legislative session.**

Name of Organization: _____

Is your organization (check one): Statewide _____ Local _____

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Please complete all items above!

**Even if your group has signed on with the CHIP Coalition in the past,
we must receive this new form in order to list your organization for
the upcoming session.**

Texas CHIP Coalition Position for 78th Legislature

Children's Medicaid and CHIP are critical to the health and well being of Texas children. Combined, the two programs insure one third of all Texas children and have helped to reduce the number of uninsured children in Texas. These gains in coverage not only improve the health of our youngest Texans — our future workforce — but also mitigate the cost of uncompensated care on local governments and taxpayers by maximizing federal funding of our health care safety net.

The CHIP Coalition opposes cutbacks in Children's Medicaid and CHIP eligibility, services or reimbursement levels. We believe such actions would undermine the purpose and integrity of the health coverage and access to care provided through these programs.

The Texas CHIP Coalition supports sufficient state funding for Medicaid and CHIP to:

- Maintain current health benefits and eligibility standards, including continuous eligibility standards, mail-in enrollment and renewal, and simple documentation requirements;
- Improve provider participation by establishing and maintaining adequate provider payment rates and health insurance premiums; and
- Continue community-based outreach to educate families about appropriate use of children's health insurance and the importance of staying insured.

The Texas CHIP Coalition opposes selling Texas' tobacco settlement proceeds for a one-time payment through "securitization."