

HB 552—Montana Children's Health Care Act

Sponsor: Rep. Mary Caferro

How Many Montana Children are Uninsured?

- 41,500 children are uninsured (17%)
- 15% of urban children are uninsured
- 20% of rural children are uninsured
- 38% of American Indian Children are uninsured

What Does HB 552 Do?

- HB 552 changes the Medicaid asset test for children from \$3,000 to \$15,000.
- By changing the asset test, HB 552 allows Montana to cover approximately 3800 children who are currently uninsured.
 - 3000 CHIP slots
 - 800 Medicaid slots

HB 552 opens up access to health care for American Indian children without spending any state money.

- HB 552 allows an infusion of approximately 1.7 million dollars of federal funds, through school based services and Indian Health Services.

How Much Does HB 552 Cost?

- HB 552 is funded with I-149 monies and is included in HB 2.
- The total cost to Montana will be 1.8 million dollars.
- HB 552 will bring in approximately 5.2 million in federal matching dollars.

Montanans want to use I-149 monies to expand CHIP

- 88% of respondents to a Lee Newspapers Poll stated they supported using I-149 revenue to expand the Children's Health Insurance Project.

HB 552 creates economic development

- Montana receives a 3 to 1 return on our investment in Medicaid through a federal match.
- These federal dollars will directly and positively impact Montana's local economies.

Please Support HB 552. It is a step in the right direction for Montana's children, families and communities.