

S 142

Kids Come First Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jan 6, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jan 6, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/142>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jan 8, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 6, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Kids Come First Act of 2009 - Amends title XIX of the Social Security Act (SSA) to give states the option to receive 100% Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentages (FMAPs) for medical assistance for children in poverty in exchange for expanded coverage of children in working poor families under Medicaid (SSA title XIX) or SCHIP (SSA title XXI (State Children's Health Insurance)).

Eliminates the cap on SCHIP funding for states that expand eligibility for children.

Gives states the option to: (1) provide wrap-around SCHIP coverage to children who have other health coverage; (2) enroll low-income children of state employees in SCHIP; (3) provide optional coverage of legal immigrant children under Medicaid and SCHIP; and (4) provide for passive renewal of eligibility for children under Medicaid and SCHIP.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to provide for: (1) a refundable income tax credit for health insurance coverage of children; and (2) forfeiture of the personal tax exemption for any child not covered by health insurance.

Establishes a task force to conduct a nationwide campaign of education and outreach for small business concerns regarding the availability of coverage for children through private insurance options, the Medicaid program, and SCHIP.

Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Public Health Service Act to require group market health insurers to offer a dependent coverage option for workers and other individuals with children.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to provide for partial repeal of rate reduction in the highest income tax bracket.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 6, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 6, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S128)
- **Jan 6, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.