

WASHINGTON- Today Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) issued the following against the SCHIP reauthorization bill.

"I support providing health insurance for low-income, uninsured children. Unfortunately, the SCHIP bill brought to the floor today expands coverage for higher income families and does not require proof of identification to enroll in SCHIP and Medicaid. It also puts a greater tax burden on lower income people."

"I'm also greatly concerned that physician-owned hospitals would be banned in the future. This includes the Bellevue Medical Center currently under construction. Other specialty facilities like the Midwest Neuroscience Center and the Nebraska Orthopedic Hospital would not be allowed to expand under this legislation."

"I support a plan offered by my colleague Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, the *The SCHIP Plus Act*, that would allow SCHIP children coverage under a family insurance plan, equalize health care choices for low-income families and be a much more efficient use of taxpayer dollars."

The bill reauthorizes the State Children's Health Insurance Program through FY 2013. It also expands it to cover an additional 4 million more children than are currently covered by SCHIP.

