

WASHINGTON - Today, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 273 to 156 to override the President's veto of the Children's Health Insurance Program, otherwise known as SCHIP. The bill needed a two-thirds majority to override which did not happen. Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) announced he voted against the veto override of SCHIP. In voting against the override Congressman Lee Terry said the bill as it stands was not the right thing to do for poor children.

**"For weeks supporters of the bill have said anyone who opposes this bill is against disadvantaged children, this is absolutely 100% not true. I have always seen the need to help our poorest of children, but this bill is nowhere near putting poor kids first," said Congressman Terry.**

The facts are this bill would provide taxpayer-funded healthcare to illegal immigrants, it would add more adults and it would add what the IRS calls "high income families" onto the government rolls.

**"I am committed to working with Democrats and Republicans to ensure that kids who really need healthcare continue to get it. Let's not play politics at the expense of needy children anymore. We all must work together and get a form of SCHIP that makes sense passed. I'm willing to help poor kids, I hope others are too," said Congressman Lee Terry.**

SCHIP was created as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Congress authorized and appropriated funds totaling nearly \$40 billion for fiscal years 1997-2007, with each state receiving access to a portion of the annual amount. Congress passed a reauthorization of the program with many, many flaws. President Bush then vetoed the bill.

**"Today Congress made the right decision to not override the President's veto," said Congressman Terry.**

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