

Yesterday marked the 1 year anniversary of President Obama signing the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) Reauthorization Act into law.

Before passage of the legislation, SCHIP covered seven million children across the country that would otherwise be uninsured. This legislation provided health coverage to 11 million children, increasing the number of children covered by 4 million.

To me, the story of the Farr Family of Manchester epitomizes the importance of SCHIP. Joe and Danielle Farr have a one year old son named William and earned \$15 above the income limit to be eligible for Medicaid. In a scenario experienced by many Connecticut families last year, Joe learned he was likely going to be laid off from his job.

The Farr's had to ask themselves one question- during these tough economic times, can we afford to provide our child with health care coverage. The Farr's answered the question with a resounding yes.

Due to SCHIP, families in Connecticut and throughout our nation can provide their children with quality, affordable health care coverage.

We still have a few miles left to travel on the road to fulfilling the promise of health care reform. With a signature by President Obama one year ago, we placed a down-payment on that ultimate goal on behalf of the Farr's and families across the country.