



G-CAPP Policy and Advocacy News

ACTION ALERT – Georgia’s PeachCare Program in Jeopardy

Without quick action by Congress, Georgia’s PeachCare program, the state’s health insurance program for children, is facing a \$131 million federal funding shortfall and could be forced to shut down, reduce benefits or curb enrollment by mid-year.

PeachCare is the Georgia version of the national State Children’s Health Insurance Plan (S-CHIP), a federal program administered in partnership with states to provide health insurance coverage for children in low income, working families who would otherwise be uninsured. PeachCare provides health care coverage to 270,000 children in Georgia.

Georgia is one of over a dozen states facing a shortfall in federal funds for their children’s insurance program. In December, the 109th Congress provided last-minute partial funding to provide a temporary fix, but Georgia needs Congress to appropriate the remainder of the shortfall to keep PeachCare operating through the end of fiscal year 2007.

Please call or send a letter, fax or email to both of Georgia’s Senators and your Representative to urge them to work to ensure that Georgia receives the funding it needs to continue PeachCare through 2007, and that reauthorization for S-CHIP is a priority addressed in the first days of the 110th Congress.

Contact information for Georgia’s Senators is below. To find contact information for your U.S. Representative, visit www.congress.org, enter your zip code in the left hand side of the page, and click on the arrow. Then click on your Representatives’ name for their contact information. Please call, mail, fax or email today!

Senator Saxby Chambliss
416 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3521
Fax: 202-224-0103
Email: Saxby_chambliss@chambliss.senate.gov

Senator Johnny Isakson
120 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3643
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Email: <http://isakson.senate.gov/contact.cfm>

Georgia General Assembly Convenes

Today, Monday, January 8, the General Assembly convenes for the 2007 Legislative Session. The session will run for 40 non-consecutive days. Stay tuned to these email updates for weekly summaries of legislation important to adolescents and their families.

Also beginning today at 7 PM on Georgia Public Broadcasting, tune in for "Lawmakers", a nightly broadcast providing in-depth coverage of the General Assembly.

RSVP for the G-CAPP Annual Legislative Reception

G-CAPP is proud to announce that the keynote speaker for the 2007 G-CAPP Legislative Reception is Dr. Betty Siegel, President Emeritus of Kennesaw State University. Visit the [G-CAPP web site](#) to RSVP for the event, taking place on Thursday, February 8, 2007, from 5 PM – 7 PM in the [Blue Room at the Georgia Freight Depot](#).

G-CAPP Fast Fact

According to the 2003 national Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 45 percent of high school students reported drinking alcohol in the past month, and of those students, 64 percent reported binge drinking – or consuming five or more drinks in a row. Binge drinkers were five times more likely as nondrinkers to report they were sexually active.

Source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

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[Save the Date for the G-CAPP Annual Legislative Reception: Thursday, February 8, 2007, 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Georgia Freight Depot.](#)