

[Your Letterhead]

Dear Legislator:

As a practicing physician in your district, I am writing to ask you to OPPOSE the Governor's proposal to eliminate the Healthy Families Program and move 900,000 children into Medi-Cal. I believe this move would be disastrous for the health and well being of these vulnerable children.

Healthy Families is widely regarded as one of the most successful health programs in the country. Children in the program receive high-quality care on a timely basis. Medi-Cal, on the other hand, is already overburdened and underfunded. There is no way it can absorb the Healthy Families children without seriously disrupting their care.

I urge you, instead, to SUPPORT the "Bright Line" compromise developed by a coalition of children's advocates and health care providers. Under this compromise, only those children from families with incomes under 133% of the federal poverty level (under the "Bright Line") would be moved into Medi-Cal.

These children will be changing programs anyway, due to federal health reform. The state can monitor the experience of the "Bright Line" children, to help guide future discussions about Healthy Families.

Please don't gamble with the health and well being of almost a million California children. Reject the proposed elimination of Healthy Families.

Sincerely,

(Your name)