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Children's Health

Congress Mulls Children's Health Insurance Program



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Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) is also a physician. AP

Day to Day, August 1, 2007 · This week, Congress takes up renewal of S-CHIP, or the State Children's Health Insurance Program. The program provides health care for children whose family income isn't low enough to qualify for Medicaid.

States administer the program with about \$5 billion in annual support from the federal government, and a renewal likely to be approved by the Senate would more than double that amount over the next five years. President Bush is threatening to veto the legislation.

Alex Chadwick talks health care correspondent Julie Rovner about the debate and what's ahead for the program. Celeste Headlee provides an on-the-ground look at how the program is working for doctors and families in the Detroit area. Finally, Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK), who is also a physician, discusses the flaws he sees in S-CHIP and his alternative proposal involving a tax credit.