

Action Alert

National Conference of State Legislatures
Office of State-Federal Relations

April 20, 2010

ADDITIONAL MEDICAID DOLLARS FOR STATES IN JEOPARDY

-Congressional delegation communications needed-

The additional six months of enhanced federal matching funds for state Medicaid (FMAP) and child welfare (Title IV-E) programs that appeared to be a certainty just days ago is now “on the ropes.” This \$25.5 billion extension of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provisions would cover the period of January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 and is included in H.R. 4213. Increasing demands that any “jobs”, supplemental appropriations or emergency legislation be offset with revenue adjustments or spending reductions has emerged as the dominant factor in potential passage of H.R. 4213 and related legislation.

ACTION NEEDED. State legislators should contact their congressional delegations and impress upon them the importance of extending the Medicaid match to address increasing fiscal pressures on this program. It is also important to emphasize the need for expeditious action given session adjournment dates, budget and appropriations negotiations and state fiscal conditions. There is substantial bipartisan support for this extension --- now with the offset caveat.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? On the Medicaid match specifically, contact Joy Johnson Wilson or Rachel Morgan. On “jobs” and other fiscal legislation contact Michael Bird or Jeff Hurley. Contact Sheri Steisel or Lee Posey on child welfare. All can be reached at 202-624-5400 or electronically at firstname.lastname@NCSL.org.