

## **The Healthy Schools Act of 2009 (S. 1034/H.R. 2840)**

<b>Title:</b>	To amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to ensure payment under Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program for covered items and services furnished by school-based health clinics (SBHCs).
<b>Sponsors:</b>	Senator Stabenow (D-MI) and Representative Sarbanes (D-MD)
<b>Original Cosponsors:</b>	Sens. Bennett (D-CO), Durbin (D-IL), Kerry (D-MA), Levin (D-MI), Snowe (R-ME), and Wyden (D-OR)  Reps. Baldwin (D-WI), Blumenauer (D-OR), Braley (D-IA), Capps (D-CA), DeGette (D-CO), Dingell (D-MI), Harman (D-CA), McGovern (D-MA), Perlmutter (D-CO), Schakowsky (D-IL), Sutton (D-OH), Towns (D-NY), and Wu (D-OR) (see website for full list of co-sponsors)

**Summary:** Over 8 million children in the United States currently have no form of health insurance. These children are unable to access preventive health care, which may lead to untreated conditions, unnecessary diseases, and death. SBHCs are a demonstrated effective means of bringing preventive and primary care to medically underserved children and adolescents and decreasing academic failure resulting from poor health. There are over 1700 school-based health clinics in 44 states, serving approximately 2 million children, and yet many of these clinics do not receive any federal support. Currently in the majority of states, SBHCs face a number of state policy barriers that shut them out of SCHIP and Medicaid reimbursement for services delivered to enrollees. Despite the fact that every SBHC in the country sees SCHIP enrollees, only one in four receive any reimbursement from their state SCHIP program.

### **Overview of Provisions of the Act:**

Under *The Healthy Schools Act of 2009*, Medicaid and SCHIP reimbursement to school-based health care safety net providers will be assured for providing health services. The Act establishes a mechanism for States to certify SBHCs to be recognized under Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program for Medicaid and SCHIP-enrolled school children and adolescents.

*The Healthy Schools Act of 2009* would:

- Ensure procedures for payment under Medicaid and SCHIP for services provided by school-based health clinics certified by States and Health and Human Services
- Establish a certification procedure for States to certify to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the State has implemented procedures to pay for SCHIP and Medicaid provided health care in a SBHC
- Set minimum criteria for “primary health services” as the core group of services offered by a SBHC, including comprehensive health and mental health assessments, intervention and treatment, as well as oral health, social, and health education services.