

# It's Time to Cover ALL Kids in Virginia

Expand access to comprehensive and affordable children's health coverage by supporting HB970 (Del.Tran) & SB231 (Sen.Hashmi)!

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## Many Virginia children are without health coverage.

Every child should have every opportunity for a healthy start, including comprehensive health coverage. In Virginia, there are stark inequities in health coverage depending on a child's immigration status.

- Roughly 88,500 (4.5%) children in Virginia do not have health coverage.
- Virginia ranks 25th in the nation for the percentage of children who do not have health insurance and 11th highest in total number of uninsured children.
- Virginia children who are U.S. citizens have an uninsured rate of 3.8%.
- Virginia children with undocumented status are estimated to have an uninsured rate of 48%.
- In Virginia, 9,000 undocumented children from families with low income (< 205% FPL) are uninsured, with another 4,000 likely underinsured.

## Expand health coverage eligibility to ALL children.

HB970 (Del.Tran) & SB231 (Sen.Hashmi) would establish a health coverage program in Virginia available to children from low-income families regardless of immigration status.

- This program would create a new health coverage option for 1 in 10 (10.2%) currently uninsured kids.
- The program mirrors Virginia Medicaid/FAMIS enrollment, eligibility processes, and income eligibility levels, currently at 205% FPL (\$52,931 for a family of three in 2024).
- Bills include language access, privacy protections, and a robust outreach and enrollment plan.
- Benefits would be the same as Medicaid/FAMIS, including behavioral health, dental, and preventative care services.
- Eleven states and Washington, DC, currently use state-only funds to cover low-income children in health coverage programs regardless of immigration status. Utah became the most recent state to pass similar legislation and will create a program in 2024.

## Invest in a healthier Virginia.

State lawmakers should take action this legislative session and invest \$19.3 million over the next two fiscal years to ensure 13,000 children don't have to spend another year without health coverage. HB970 (Del.Tran) & SB231 (Sen.Hashmi) offer an opportunity to address children's health coverage disparities and prove that Virginia invests in EVERY child's future.