**The Kid Angle**

*Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children*

**BREAKING: Children will get to keep their health insurance**

September 1, 2022

*Contact: Michele Kayal, VP Media and Communications,*

*MicheleK@FirstFocus.org*

---

**Plus, some of the best kid stories this week**

Nearly 40 million children get their health insurance through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) each year and a proposed new rule from the Administration will help them keep it.

The proposed rule, to be published in the Federal Register Sept. 7, will:

- **Cut bureaucratic red tape** that often results in eligible children losing insurance
- **Limit renewals to every 12 months**, which will spare families having to prove over and over that they qualify and reduce disenrollment of eligible children
- **Eliminate waiting periods** for CHIP, delivering timely care to children
- **Stop coverage loss** when income temporarily increases or categorical eligibility shifts

And it's about time. A [recent analysis by First Focus on Children and partner advocates](https://www.firstfocus.org) found that paperwork and other burdens could cost nearly 7 million disproportionately Black, Latino and indigenous children their health insurance at the end of the Public Health Emergency, currently scheduled for October.

**Next stop: Make CHIP permanent**, CHIP, which turned 25 this summer, is the only federal health insurance program that requires constant renewal.
The ONLY one. When Congress allowed it to expire in 2017, it threatened the health and well-being of millions of children for more than four long months.

More on all of that here and to come.

News Roundup

Some really good pieces about children this week. Here are a few of the best/most important:

- **The Politics of the Child Tax Credit**, *The American Prospect*. Voters see it as a strong Democratic accomplishment, and a key Republican vulnerability.

- **Climate change is making it harder for our kids to learn**, *Salon*. Studies find a link between higher temperatures and lower test scores — but that's only part of the problem.

- **California lawmakers pass landmark children's online safety bill**, *The Washington Post*. The legislation is part of a growing push nationwide to hold tech companies accountable for how their services affect children's mental health and safety.

- **Podcast | Inside the Adolescent Mental Health Crisis**, *The New York Times*. Young people in the United States are facing a new set of risks. Why has the situation caught so many people off guard?
On the subject of so-called parental rights, there were these:

- **Judge thwarts Va. Republicans’ effort to limit book sales at Barnes & Noble**, *Washington Post*. The two books being challenged in the lawsuit are Maia Kobabe’s “Gender Queer,” a memoir about identifying as nonbinary, and Sarah J. Maas’s fantasy novel “A Court of Mist and Fury”.

- **Parents ask federal judge to block Florida schools from carrying out 'Don't Say Gay' law**, *Politico*. The group on Friday asked for a hearing in their pursuit of a preliminary injunction.

- **The most powerful moms in America are the new face of the Republican party**, *Mother Jones*. Their crusade against public education is just the beginning.

**Happy Labor Day weekend!**