



June 23, 2008

An Update on the Tax and Budget System

Welcome to the third e-brief of Moving Families Forward! This e-brief will provide updates and alerts on state and federal tax and budget issues that impact low-income children and their families.

Medicaid Regulations Update

House negotiators have reached an agreement with the White House on an emergency supplemental package that, if enacted, will help low-income people in a number of areas. Among other things, the package will extend the moratoria on six of the seven Medicaid regulations (leaving the outpatient moratoria out). By a vote of 416-12, the portion of the package that included the moratoria passed. The package now goes back to the Senate, which will act next week. We would like to thank Congressman Boozman in particular for supporting passage. We would also like to thank Congressmen Snyder, Berry, and Ross for their support as well. We are pleased with our delegation's support for the moratoria, and we look forward to affirmative Senate action as well.

Action steps: Please thank our House members, particularly Congressman Boozman, who voted for the moratoria.

Farm Bill Update

The ordeal is over and the deed is done!! Congress sent the full, correctly-enrolled Farm Bill to the President earlier this week. The President vetoed it again. The House and Senate both overrode the veto again. We can finally and truly congratulate each other for a job well done on the nutrition provisions!

Contact Us

If you would like more information on the topics discussed above, please contact Candice Smith, our federal tax and budget policy director, at csmith@aradvocates.org. If you would like information on a state tax and budget issue, please contact Pat Bodenhamer, our state tax and budget outreach director, at pbodenhamer@aradvocates.org.