



James H. Douglas  
Governor of Vermont  
Chair

Joe Manchin III  
Governor of West Virginia  
Vice Chair

Raymond C. Scheppach  
Executive Director

February 21, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Speaker, Mr. Boehner, Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:

On behalf of the nation's governors we write to request your assistance in protecting jobs and speeding economic recovery by extending the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) enhanced federal match for Medicaid (FMAP) for two additional quarters.

Unfortunately, the length and depth of the recession means states and territories will continue to face significant budget shortfalls long after the enhanced FMAP provisions expire at the end of this calendar year.

States and territories are in the process of finalizing budgets for FY 2011 that our legislatures will be considering over the next several months. Timely passage of an extension of ARRA's enhanced FMAP would greatly assist us in maintaining services and further stabilizing the economy.

To maximize the positive impact of FMAP enhancements on the economy, Congress should also modify ARRA's existing maintenance of effort (MOE) provisions. Restoring flexibility to manage our Medicaid programs and enact common sense reforms is critical to ensuring the program's ongoing and future stability.

Governors appreciated the inclusion of enhanced FMAP provisions in ARRA. We are committed to encouraging job creation and speeding recovery and urge you to work with us by extending FMAP enhancements and restoring state flexibility over Medicaid as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bill Patta Jr.

Ben P

Sonny Perdue

Andell P

Mr Beebe

John Myer

~~Bob P~~

Jim Gibson

Mr King

Alan Powell

Jack Marler

Pat Quinn

Edward G Rendell

Cliff Hunt

My P

Stan B

John Buchanan

Christine Gregoire

Phil Rucker

M. Max

Jeff Klay

Bradley

Bob McDowell

Henry Parsons

DeWitt

Ray

1 Theodore R. Kulayak

Chet Kuhler

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M. Jodi Fell

Zit Zye

David A. Paterson

Jim Wynn

Fred Strickland

McDaniel D

Bill Richards

Dave Heineman

Janet Joffe

Mark

Chalki Crest

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Arnold Schwarzenegger

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Bruno Tardis

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