

**Testimony before the Human Services Committee
Representative Jeff Delzer, Chairman
November 6, 2007**

Chairman Delzer, members of the Human Services Committee, I am Maggie Anderson, Director of the Medical Services Division, for the Department of Human Services. In accordance with NDCC 50-29-02, I appear before you to provide an annual report on the enrollment statistics and costs associated with the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Appropriation and Expenditures for 2007-2009

SCHIP Appropriation	SCHIP Expenditures Thru Sept 2007	% of Appropriation Used *
\$ 20,204,746	\$ 1,550,094	7.7%

*8.3% (2 months) of biennium have expired

Note: The Appropriation includes expansion dollars, contingent upon federal changes during SCHIP Reauthorization.

Enrollment

As of September 2007 there were 3,871 children enrolled in Healthy Steps. This enrollment shows an upward trend, when compared to the three, six, and twelve month averages, which are 3,805, 3,798, and 3,770, respectively.

SCHIP Reauthorization

As you likely know, SCHIP needed to be reauthorized by September 30, 2007. This did not occur; however, Congress passed a continuing resolution package, which included SCHIP. This continuing resolution ends November 16, 2007.

2007 House Bill Number 1463 directed the Department to expand SCHIP eligibility to 150% of the federal poverty level, contingent upon as assurance that SCHIP Reauthorization funding allows for such an expansion. Once an agreement is reached on the SCHIP, the Department will be able to provide an estimate of funding available to North Dakota.

I would be happy to address any questions that you may have.