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Davis noted that all children in Illinois have access to health care and stated "This is a great day for the United States, for this Congress and especially for the children of Ameican. No child in our nation should ever go without medical care. We need to end the practice of providing care through the costly use of emergency rooms for primary care, and move us closer to providing every child in our nation with affordable, high-quality health care including preventive care rather than just treating sick children.

With rising unemployment, this children's health bill is more critical than ever. In this recession, more and more American parents are losing employer-sponsored health care for their children and the need for this legislation is growing every day."

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was created in 1997 to provide health care coverage for children in families that earn too little to afford health insurance for their children themselves but too much to qualify for Medicaid. This bill provides the states the resources and incentives necessary to reach and cover millions of uninsured children who are currently eligible for, but not enrolled in, SCHIP and Medicaid. It has been endorsed by dozens of organizations, representing millions of Americans – ranging from business groups such as the National Federation of Independent Businesses and Business Roundtable to the American Hospital Association to such groups as AARP and Families USA."

The bill is fully paid for – raising the tobacco tax by 61 cents. Raising the tobacco tax also promotes children's health – by discouraging children from smoking. According to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, a 61-cent increase in the tobacco tax means that 1,873,000 fewer children will take up smoking.

Davis concluded "I hope this will be one of the first bills signed into law by President Obama."