



## Children's Health Fund

September 10th, 2010

Dear Senator,

As co-founders of an organization which provides comprehensive healthcare to children in the nation's most medically underserved communities, we strongly urge you to vote NO on Senator Mike Johanns amendment to the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act which would strip funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

As you know, The Prevention and Public Health Fund created in The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was an important step in improving the lives of our nation's children, providing funding for prevention, wellness and public health programs. The Johanns amendment would strip the funding for this program as an offset to repeal 1099 reporting requirements that were also established under the PPACA. If passed, this amendment would threaten a wide range of health activities including obesity prevention, elimination of health disparities, nutrition programs, additional training for public health workers, health screenings, and immunization efforts.

We believe that it is critical to invest in our public health infrastructure by funding the National Health Service Corps which provides incentives for doctors to practice in health professional shortage areas and programs aimed at preventing obesity. These are just a two things that the Prevention and Public Health Fund has addressed this year alone. The establishment of the Prevention and Public Health Fund represents a critical opportunity to refocus our nation's approach to health and invest in innovative and effective prevention programs. These types of programs have been shown not only to reduce healthcare costs but to also save lives. We urge that you not squander this opportunity, but instead oppose any short-sighted attempts to redirect this vital funding.

We look forward to working with you to protect and build upon the provisions enacted as part of health reform to improve quality, access, and affordability of care for children. There are no do-overs for childhood. We must work to ensure access to comprehensive and high quality coverage and care is a reality for all of our nation's children.

Sincerely,

Irwin Redlener, MD  
Co-Founder and President  
Children's Health Fund

Paul Simon  
Co-founder  
Children's Health Fund