

Greetings!

NAQC News Flash



House and Senate Take Action to Raise Federal Tobacco Tax to Fund SCHIP

This past Wednesday, January 14, the House passed an increase of 61 cents in the federal tobacco tax to fund the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The House vote was 289 to 139. Over a four and a half year period, the bill would provide \$32.3 billion to seven million children who currently access the program and extend coverage to four million more uninsured children. Yesterday, the Senate Finance Committee also passed a 12-7 vote to expand SCHIP via an increase in the federal tobacco tax to cover and expand the program. There are no earmarks in the legislation for tobacco control programs. President-elect Obama was quoted by the Associated Press stating he hoped the Senate would act quickly so the SCHIP legislation could be one of the first measures he signs into law when President.

As more information becomes available, NAQC will keep you informed about the effective date of the tax increase and likely impact on demand for quitline services.

Additional Information & Resources:

[Learn more about the House bill](#)

[Senate Finance Committee vote](#)

[Associated Press article](#)

[State Children's Health Insurance Program](#)

Contact Us With Questions

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