



**Written Testimony
in Opposition to
SB13-006**

**No Reduction in K-12 Education to Expand
Medicaid**

**for
The Senate Education Committee**

On behalf of our members, the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) is submitting this written statement in opposition to SB13-006, No Reduction in K-12 Education to Expand Medicaid. CCHI is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based membership organization working to achieve barrier-free, quality, affordable access to health care for all Coloradans. In addition to individual members, CCHI has more than 50 organizational members; through our member's members, we represent well over 500,000 Coloradans.

SB13-006 would prohibit the General Assembly from expending state moneys to participate in the Affordable Care Act if the effect of those expenditures is to decrease funding for Colorado's public schools.

This bill creates a false choice between health care and education. As Coloradans, we value providing Colorado's children with a quality education and in making sure that health care is available to Coloradans who need it most. World-class education for our children and world-class health care for all Coloradans encourage businesses to invest and create jobs. Together they are a part of the path forward for Colorado.

We urge Colorado's leaders to focus on the underlying budget problem rather than continue discourse around this false choice. We should not be asked to choose between education for our children and the health care needs of hard-working Coloradans.

Thank you and again, CCHI urges the committee members to vote no on SB13-006.