Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak and to urge our

colleagues to please vote and pass this passage.

Now, the most important part, and, of course, all of it is very

important, but there is one part that I want to emphasize that is so

important on the second part; and I take quite a distaste at how the

gentleman referred to that as pork, because the children's health

program is not pork.

In my State of Georgia, there are 273,000 children who will go

without their insurance or health care if we do not pass this measure.

Now, yes, we must get the funding to the troops; they are in need,

and we certainly want to get the funding there. But let me just urge

those in the minority on the other side of the aisle that many of these

273,000 children who are in Georgia without health insurance belong to

the soldiers who are serving in Iraq, and we have been working

feverishly in each step of the way to make sure we had the SCHIP

program included. And I want to make sure we include this all the way,

and urge the President to sign it when we get there.