



**Ohio Children's Hospital Association**  
Saving, protecting and enhancing children's lives

## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

For immediate release

February 19, 2013

*Michael Fisher, Chairman, Ohio Children's Hospital Association Board of Directors, and President & CEO, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, today issued the following statement regarding the Governor's proposed Medicaid Expansion in Ohio as outlined in the State of the State address this evening:*

The members of the Ohio Children's Hospital Association are pleased that Governor Kasich outlined the case for Medicaid expansion in his State of the State address, as we support Medicaid expansion in Ohio. Although Ohio children are currently eligible for Medicaid up to 200% of FPL, the health of the entire family is important to the long-term economic vitality of our state. We recognize the potential benefit of providing more Ohio adults with Medicaid health coverage as outlined by Governor Kasich this evening. Obviously, expansion cannot come at the expense of care for Ohio's youngest patients or those health care providers who provide them cost effective, high quality care – including the 1.2 million children in Ohio who already rely on Medicaid for health care coverage.

We are confident Ohio's world class pediatric health care system will continue to receive strong assistance and support from Ohio's policy makers recognizing the unique role we play in Ohio's health delivery system. We are looking forward to continuing to work with Governor Kasich, Ohio Office of Health Transformation Director Greg Moody, Ohio Medicaid Director John McCarthy and all members of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate on HB 59, and, in particular, the provisions impacting the health care of Ohio's children.

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More information about the Ohio Children's Hospital Association is available at [ohiochildrenshospitals.org](http://ohiochildrenshospitals.org).  
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