

February 2020

## **Keeping Kids Covered**

### **12-Month Continuous Eligibility for Children on Medicaid**

#### **What is it?**

This policy would allow children enrolled in Medicaid to stay on their insurance for the full year.

#### **Why is it needed?**

Utah has one of the highest rates of uninsured children in the nation (7%), and it is going UP in recent years.

We rank #44 out of 51 for insured children. We can do better!

Children on Medicaid frequently cycle on and off the program due to red-tape barriers.

Allowing continuous eligibility for a year would reduce paperwork and red-tape and improve our rate insured kids!

#### **Is this offered in other programs?**

Yes, most insurance plans allow for a year of continuous coverage, including CHIP and private plans. Utah also allows continuous eligibility for qualifying adults experiencing homelessness or mental health needs.

#### **Who would benefit?**

Families with children below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (about \$3,000/month for a family of 4)