



James H. Douglas  
Governor of Vermont  
Chair

Joe Manchin III  
Governor of West Virginia  
Vice Chair

Raymond C. Scheppach  
Executive Director

February 21, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Speaker, Mr. Boehner, Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:

On behalf of the nation's governors we write to request your assistance in protecting jobs and speeding economic recovery by extending the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) enhanced federal match for Medicaid (FMAP) for two additional quarters.

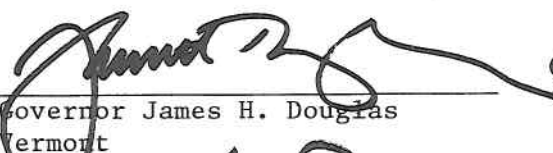
Unfortunately, the length and depth of the recession means states and territories will continue to face significant budget shortfalls long after the enhanced FMAP provisions expire at the end of this calendar year.

States and territories are in the process of finalizing budgets for FY 2011 that our legislatures will be considering over the next several months. Timely passage of an extension of ARRA's enhanced FMAP would greatly assist us in maintaining services and further stabilizing the economy.

To maximize the positive impact of FMAP enhancements on the economy, Congress should also modify ARRA's existing maintenance of effort (MOE) provisions. Restoring flexibility to manage our Medicaid programs and enact common sense reforms is critical to ensuring the program's ongoing and future stability.

Governors appreciated the inclusion of enhanced FMAP provisions in ARRA. We are committed to encouraging job creation and speeding recovery and urge you to work with us by extending FMAP enhancements and restoring state flexibility over Medicaid as soon as possible.

Sincerely,




Governor James H. Douglas  
Vermont



Governor Martin O'Malley  
Maryland



Governor Joe Manchin III  
West Virginia

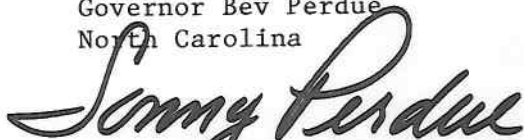


Governor Dave Freudenthal  
Wyoming

  
Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Colorado



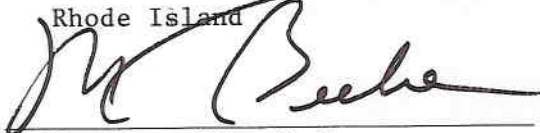
Governor Bev Perdue  
North Carolina



Governor Sonny Perdue  
Georgia



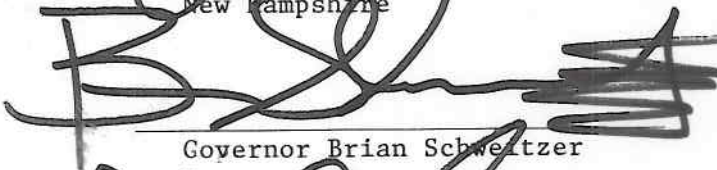
Governor Donald L. Carcieri  
Rhode Island



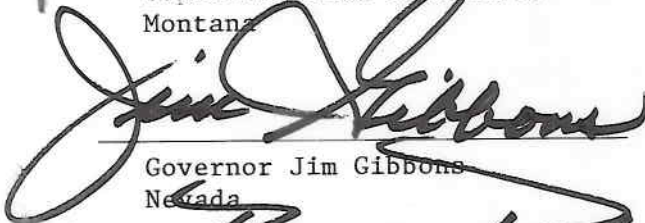
Governor Mike Beebe  
Arkansas



Governor John H. Lynch  
New Hampshire



Governor Brian Schweitzer  
Montana



Governor Jim Gibbons  
Nevada



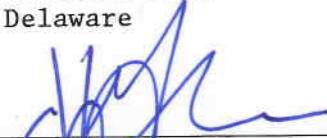
Governor Bob Riley  
Alabama



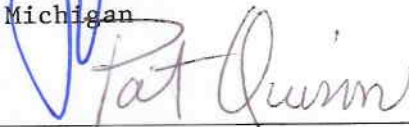
Governor Sean Parnell  
Alaska



Governor Jack Markell  
Delaware



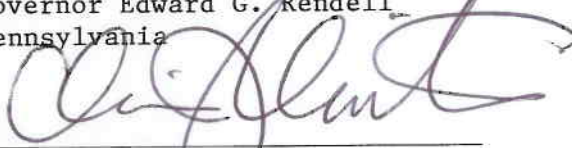
Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
Michigan



Governor Pat Quinn  
Illinois



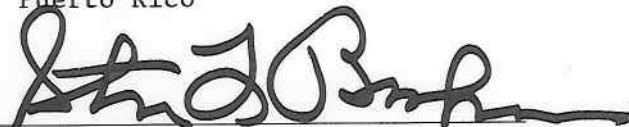
Governor Edward G. Rendell  
Pennsylvania



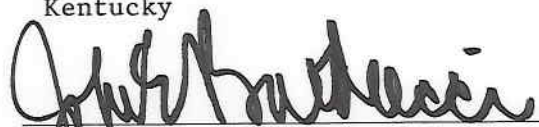
Governor Chris Christie  
New Jersey



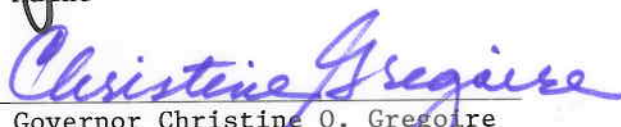
Governor Luis Fortuno  
Puerto Rico




Governor Steven L. Beshear  
Kentucky



Governor John E. Baldacci  
Maine



Governor Christine O. Gregoire  
Washington



Governor Phil Bredesen  
Tennessee





Governor M. Michael Rounds  
South Dakota



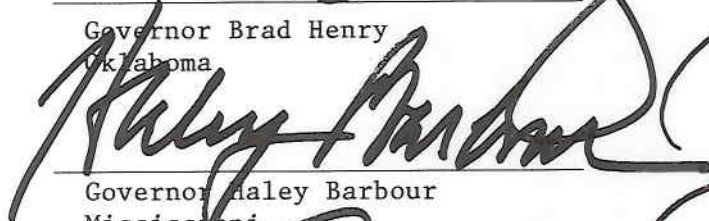
Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono  
American Samoa



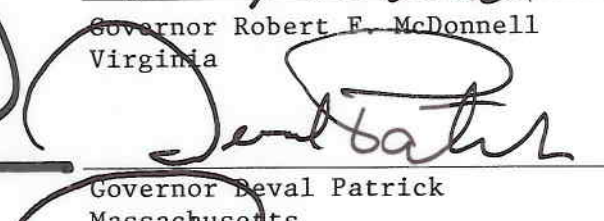
Governor Brad Henry  
Oklahoma



Governor Robert F. McDonnell  
Virginia



Governor Haley Barbour  
Mississippi



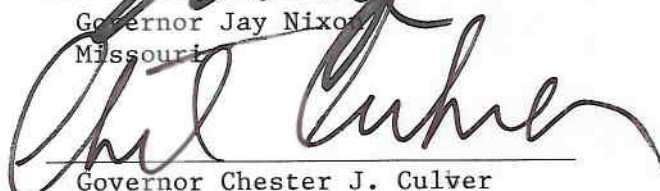
Governor Deval Patrick  
Massachusetts



Governor Jay Nixon  
Missouri



Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski  
Oregon



Governor Chester J. Culver  
Iowa



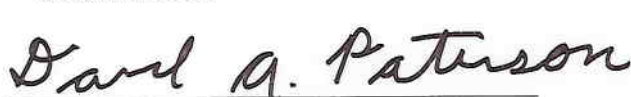
Governor Felix P. Camacho  
Guam



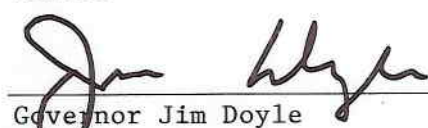
Governor M. Jodi Rell  
Connecticut



Governor Linda Lingle  
Hawaii



Governor David A. Paterson  
New York



Governor Jim Doyle  
Wisconsin



Governor Ted Strickland  
Ohio



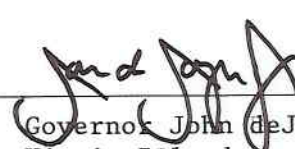
Governor Mitch Daniels  
Indiana



Governor Bill Richardson  
New Mexico



Governor Dave Heineman  
Nebraska



Governor John deJongh, Jr.  
Virgin Islands



Governor Mark Parkinson  
Kansas



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Governor Charlie Crist  
Florida



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Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
California



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Governor Benigno Fitial  
Northern Mariana Islands