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BROWN PLEDGES AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR EVERY CHILD

Retired USAF Lt. Col. Blasts McClintock Healthcare Record, including his 2008 Bill To Deny Coverage to Californians with Pre-Existing Conditions

ROSEVILLE: Retired USAF Lt. Col. Charlie Brown today signed onto the Children's Defense Council's Pledge to fight for healthcare reform that ensures access to affordable healthcare coverage for every child and every pregnant woman in America.

More than 50 candidates for Congress, from across the political spectrum, have already signed onto the CDC's pledge.

"Rising healthcare costs are hurting families and businesses across America," Brown said. "If we want to address the drain of growing healthcare costs on our economy and our family budgets, we have to focus on prevention. And we can do that by ensuring all children and pregnant women have access to affordable coverage which includes comprehensive benefits."

More than 9 million American children currently have no health coverage—1.2 million in California alone, and every 41 seconds, a baby is born without health coverage. Of uninsured children, 9 out of 10 live in a household where at least one parent works. Studies show that every dollar spent on healthcare for children saves up to \$16 in future healthcare costs, with healthy children performing far better in school.

Brown's opponent, Southern California politician Tom McClintock has been silent on healthcare in this campaign, and has opposed almost all efforts to expand access to affordable coverage for California families, though he receives free healthcare paid for by California taxpayers.

McClintock has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from the insurance and pharmaceutical industry, has yet to sign the CDC Pledge, has repeatedly voted against legislation aimed at prevention of disease and improving healthcare services to California women, children and seniors in the State Legislature, and has, as recently as 2008, authored legislation that would deny the legitimate health claims of millions of insured Californians.

Specifically, McClintock has voted against improving access to healthcare for low income children and their families, against routine coverage for children with cancer, against requiring insurers to cover checkups and vaccinations for children, against requiring insurers to cover annual cervical cancer tests for women and against prescription drug coverage for seniors. McClintock even voted against giving patients the freedom to select their own physicians.

"Tom McClintock gets free healthcare, a free car, free gas, and tax free per diems he's not entitled to, yet has voted to restrict the ability of Californians to see a doctor of their choice and fought against helping our most vulnerable citizens access meaningful healthcare coverage," said Retired USAF Lt. Col. Charlie Brown. *"His record of inaction has not only helped drive up the cost of healthcare for every Californian, it's illustrative of a career politician hypocrite who would rather serve himself, than solve problems."*

Earlier this year, McClintock authored SB 1669, which would have made it easier for health insurance companies to deny the health claims of Californians on the basis of pre-existing condition. In fact, SB 1669 would have extended the period that insurers could look back in your medical history from 12 months to 10 years.

"Tom McClintock's idea of healthcare reform is writing a law that says if you have a medical problem, you can't get healthcare coverage," Brown said. *"This misguided bill could have literally cost millions of Californians who have battled and overcome ailments ranging from diabetes, to mild cardiac conditions or cancer their lives. It was so misguided, it never came up for a floor vote and not a single healthcare organization or institution signed on to support it."*

"Since Tom doesn't think anyone with a pre-existing condition should be able to see a doctor, I challenge him to join me in a bi-partisan effort to make sure every child has access to the preventive services they need to grow up healthy."

Retired Lt. Col. Charlie Brown spent 26 years in the U.S. Air Force, flying rescue helicopters at the end of the Vietnam War, piloting reconnaissance missions around the world, and coordinating a variety of intelligence collection assets. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Sikorsky Winged S, 7 Air Medals, and 5 Meritorious Service Medals. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Brown also owns a California teaching credential and served 8 years on the Professional Staff of the Roseville Police Department.

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