



Week 5 Policymaking Assignment Template:

Please fill out the template in the boxes on the right side of each prompt. Each box will expand as you write. Please see the integrated Week 5 Policymaking assignment instructions, examples, sources, and grading rubric for guidance.

Name: Student
Name: Class: POLI
330 Professor Name:
....
Date: 08/10/2025

State the name of your chosen topic from the provided list OR choose a topic of your own.

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Provide a brief background of issues that may have led to the policy.

- This policy was created in 1997 as part of the Balanced Budget Act to address the healthcare coverage gap for children in working families.
- The purpose of this policy is to provide health insurance coverage to children in families that earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford private insurance.
- Approximately 10 million children were uninsured in the mid-1990s, creating a significant public health concern.
- Many working families fell into a "coverage gap" where income exceeded Medicaid thresholds but was insufficient for private insurance premiums.
- State Medicaid eligibility varied dramatically, with some states covering children at 44% of poverty level while others covered up to 133%.
- Emergency room usage increased for non-emergency pediatric care due to lack of regular healthcare access.

How does the

- CHIP currently provides health coverage to approximately 9.6 million children and pregnant women annually across all 50