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New child health bill would save many lives

Jim Driggers' excellent letter on the importance of helping the poor, not only in the United States but worldwide, couldn't be more timely.

Recently, children traveled hundreds of miles, alone, to reach the United States for a better life. And more than 800 desperate people died in the Mediterranean Sea trying to get to Europe's safe shores.

In the United States, some of our wealthiest people — many living on inherited income — are trying to cut back on the safety net of the poorest so they can get more tax breaks for themselves.

How much better off we'd all be if we supported a maternal and child health bill. Such a bill is in the works with bipartisan sponsorship. It will hold the U.S. Agency for International Development accountable for a smarter, more effective approach to ending preventable maternal and child death.

This bill will require a centralized and coherent strategy to maximize our investments, with returns measured in lives saved and healthy, prosperous communities creating new markets in which everyone shares.

Please tell your member of Congress you want them to support this bill when it's introduced.

Bill Nicholson
Martinez