

**STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
HEARING TO CONSIDER THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY-HELLER-
JOHNSON PROPOSAL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017**

AFL-CIO

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
PEDIATRICS

AMERICAN CONGRESS
OF OBSTETRICIANS AND
GYNECOLOGISTS

AMERICAN DENTAL
ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN DENTAL
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN HEALTH
CARE ASSOCIATION

AMERICA'S ESSENTIAL
HOSPITALS

ASSOCIATION FOR
COMMUNITY AFFILIATED
PLANS

ASSOCIATION OF
CLINICIANS FOR THE
UNDERSERVED

CATHOLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION OF THE
UNITED STATES

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

EASTERSEALS

THE JEWISH
FEDERATIONS OF
NORTH AMERICA

MEDICAID HEALTH
PLANS OF AMERICA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
CENTERS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTIES

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF PEDIATRIC NURSE
PRACTITIONERS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF RURAL HEALTH
CLINICS

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE
FOR THE HOMELESS
COUNCIL

NATIONAL HISPANIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL RURAL
HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The Partnership for Medicaid – a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing health care providers, safety net health plans, counties and labor – is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal to restructure the Medicaid program into a block grant or per capita cap model. We call on the Senate to protect Medicaid and to reject continued efforts that will roll back coverage for the 70 million people that depend on this vital program.

The Partnership is dedicated to preserving and improving the Medicaid program, so that it better meets the needs of the beneficiaries it serves. Medicaid delivers necessary health care services and other related supports to our nation's most vulnerable children, pregnant women, parents, individuals with disabilities, seniors, and other adults. Any legislation that makes fundamental changes to the Medicaid program must not undermine the quality of services or access to care for the populations that this safety net program has served for 52 years.

We strongly oppose continued efforts in the Senate to explore devastating cuts to the Medicaid program. The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal maintains near identical Medicaid provisions to those in the failed Better Care Reconciliation Act that would impose funding caps that threaten the viability of the Medicaid program. Medicaid beneficiaries rely on Congress to preserve the program and to make improvements that promote access and quality.

Cuts to Medicaid for budget gains are unacceptable and undermine the long-term stability of the program. The policies in this proposal are designed to meet fiscal objectives. They do not strengthen the Medicaid program, nor do they guarantee access to care. We remain in opposition to efforts that simply shift the cost burden onto local and state governments, health care providers and individual beneficiaries.

The Partnership strongly urges the Senate to protect Medicaid and reject efforts to dismantle the program as called for in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

**While this statement represents the collective views of the Partnership as a coalition, it has not been officially endorsed by each individual Partnership member organization.*