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**Partnership for Medicaid Announces Support
For the Stabilize Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Act of 2019**

WASHINGTON—Continuous, 12-month eligibility for Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program will ensure patients have stable access to health care and prevent unnecessary administrative costs to states, according to [a Partnership for Medicaid letter supporting the Stabilize Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Act of 2019](#).

The legislation would ensure that once patients qualify for Medicaid, their coverage would continue for 12 months, regardless of loss of coverage due to paperwork burdens or short-term fluctuations in income.

More than 72 million Americans get health care coverage through Medicaid and CHIP. Currently, millions of eligible individuals can lose coverage due to lost mail and burdensome paperwork, or if their income for one month is too high. Many affected are hourly workers, whose wages fluctuate dramatically from one month to the next.

“Millions of people enroll in Medicaid and CHIP each year only to subsequently lose coverage—despite still being eligible—because of inefficient and cumbersome paperwork and other reporting requirements,” the Partnership for Medicaid letter says. “In addition, many individuals lose their coverage due to short-term income fluctuations which may create a disincentive for earning higher incomes.”

Moreover, research consistently shows that disruptions in access to health care interrupt continuous preventive care, resulting in avoidable complications of both short-term and chronic illnesses and more intensive, expensive treatment.

“The Stabilize Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Act of 2019 offers a common-sense solution to modernize the Medicaid and CHIP programs and we are happy to lend our support for this legislation,” the coalition letter says.

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The Partnership for Medicaid seeks to raise awareness about the vital role played by the Medicaid program, which provides essential health care services to more than 58 million people. By working in a bipartisan manner with all levels of government and affected constituency groups, we seek to provide viable solutions to improving the quality and delivery of services, with the aim of constraining costs without undermining the program's fundamental goals.

Above all, **The Partnership for Medicaid** is a unified voice to ensure that Medicaid continues its crucial role as a strong safety net for vulnerable Americans.