

For Immediate Release

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Partnership for Medicaid Supports Recent Legislation to Address Medicaid, COVID-19 Pandemic

WASHINGTON— The Partnership for Medicaid, a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition made up of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, counties, and labor, welcomes the extension of critical health programs included in recent legislation to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

In particular, the Partnership supports provisions in the *Coronavirus Assistance, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* which strengthen the Medicaid program, including the extension of Money Follows the Person demonstration program, spousal impoverishment protections, and Community Mental Health Services demonstration program. The Partnership is also pleased the *CARES Act* delays impending cuts to Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments and extends critical funding for our nation's Community Health Centers through November. The Partnership has <u>long supported these programs</u>, which have collectively benefitted millions of Medicaid beneficiaries.

We implore Congress to continue its commitment to Medicaid, as it has shown in providing a temporary federal matching assistance percentage increase to states in the *Families First Coronavirus Response Act*. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress to improve the Medicaid program for its 65 million beneficiaries and we appreciate Congress' leadership during these difficult times.

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The Partnership for Medicaid is a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition made up of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, counties and labor. The goal of the coalition is to preserve and improve the Medicaid program.

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 65 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.