



## Reactions to Medicaid Cuts in the Reconciliation Bill

American Academy of Family Physicians:

*“Family physicians are at the forefront of health care delivery, caring for individuals and families across the lifespan, and we witness firsthand the positive impact that Medicaid has on our patients’ lives. Medicaid is a lifeline for more than 72 million low income individuals and families, children, pregnant women, elderly adults, and individuals with disabilities.”*

American Academy of Pediatrics:

*“...we shouldn’t ask children to bear the burden of paying for other policy priorities, such as tax cuts. The policies and cuts under consideration will harm children’s health. When we protect these programs, we invest in children’s health, make America healthier and support our country’s future. Pediatricians urge lawmakers to reject cuts to these programs and put children first.”*

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists:

*“Pregnant patients who keep their coverage under Medicaid will still face challenges accessing care as labor and delivery unit closures escalate as a result of Medicaid cuts, leaving patients to travel longer distances to give birth...the cuts will threaten the 12 months of postpartum coverage...which will leave so many without access to medical care during the year after delivery when two-thirds of maternal deaths occur.”*

American Dental Association:

*“...losing dental coverage has ripple effects on overall health. Untreated oral infections and dental pain can exacerbate chronic conditions like diabetes and heart disease, and they pose risks for pregnant women that can affect birth outcomes...dental benefit cuts can even reduce the detection of serious illnesses, for instance, states that dropped adult dental coverage saw a decline in oral cancer diagnoses...”*

American Health Care Association:

*“Any federal proposals that aim to lower the provider tax “Safe Harbor” limit from the current 6% would restrict states’ ability to finance their Medicaid programs. This would exacerbate Medicaid funding shortfalls,...force more nursing homes and long-term care facilities to close, and worsen workforce shortages by reducing resources available for staff recruitment and retention.”*



American Network of Community Options & Resources (ANCOR):

*“...community providers who support people with I/DD are already struggling ... due to insufficient Medicaid funding. If Congress cuts Medicaid even more—whether or not those cuts are specifically targeted to disability services—the programs that enable people with I/DD to meaningfully participate in our society will be first on the chopping block when state budgets are unable to absorb the financial shock.”*

American Nurses Association:

*“Medicaid policy changes could also have an adverse impact on our nation’s nursing workforce, which is already in crisis. Often, it is the nurses who are left to shoulder the full patient care burden and face increased workloads and less time to devote to each patient due to higher patient volume. This only serves to further exacerbate existing nursing workforce challenges that lead to lower job satisfaction, nurse burnout and attrition, and worse patient outcomes.”*

America’s Essential Hospitals:

*“This unprecedented level of Medicaid cuts would devastate the program, undermining the ability of essential hospitals to provide critical services, including trauma care, behavioral health, maternal health, and public health emergency response. These hospitals, which already operate on thin margins, cannot absorb such losses without reducing services or closing their doors altogether.”*

Association of Community Affiliated Plans:

*“...the practical effect of additional eligibility checks and verifications for Medicaid and Marketplace coverage is to generate additional paperwork for enrollees, providers and states – leaving people one paperwork glitch away from losing their health coverage.”*

Catholic Health Association of the United States:

*“...the cascading effects of lost coverage, including higher costs and greater strain on the system, will impact nearly all Americans – not just those who rely on Medicaid...As we have continued to state: Medicaid is not just a health program – it is a lifeline. It provides access to care for those who need it most – poor and vulnerable children, pregnant women, elderly, adults, and disabled individuals in our nation while ensuring their dignity. Congress should not take America down a dangerous path of drastically reducing access to health care in the United States.”*



Children's Hospital Association:

*"Children's hospitals rely heavily on Medicaid reimbursement to provide high-quality care, and without a strong Medicaid program, children's hospitals will be forced to make tough decisions. Families often can't just go to their closest general hospital – children aren't little adults, and their health care needs aren't the same as their parents'."*

Easterseals:

*"Medicaid supports local economies across the country, where thousands of caregivers and direct support professionals are employed to help provide these critical services, and thousands more can go to work each day knowing that their loved ones are cared for while they're away."*

LeadingAge:

*"We have been told that the intent of all these policies is not to harm older adults, but they will...the provider tax moratorium limits states' flexibility to adjust their taxes based on state needs or to redirect these funds where they are needed most, which could threaten the viability of our members and limit access for those they serve."*

Medicaid Health Plans of America:

*"...these proposals create downstream consequences that could result in significant problems across the health care ecosystem. Let us be clear: it is not possible to protect the most vulnerable in our society from Medicaid cuts of this size and scope."*

National Association of Community Health Centers:

*"Even a small shift in patients from Medicaid to uninsured status could force clinics to reduce services or close locations, jeopardizing access to cost-effective primary care and medical services in communities. Rural communities would lose critical access points for primary care, dental services, and behavioral health."*

National Association of Counties:

*"Counties employ more than 3.6 million Americans who support 1,900 local public health departments, 900 hospitals, 700 long-term care facilities, 750 behavioral health centers and 91 percent of local jails...When federal funding is reduced or eliminated, counties are forced to either raise additional revenue or reduce essential services. However, counties are often limited in our ability to raise local revenue. Forty-two states limit county property tax authority, and restrictions have expanded extensively in recent decades."*



National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners:

*“...the deepest cuts to the Medicaid program ever considered, threatening coverage and care for children by capping federal funding and imposing restrictions that will cause tens of thousands of children and other enrollees to lose health care coverage and force states to reduce eligibility, eliminate benefits, and cut payments to health care providers.”*

National Association of Rural Health Clinics:

*“Significant increases in the uninsured population could have negative financial viability impacts for Rural Health Clinics, as we do not receive funding support to treat this patient population.”*

National Council for Mental Wellbeing:

*“Specifically, we are concerned that many of the individuals we serve, especially those with severe mental illness and chronic substance use disorder, would face more barriers in getting the care they need. Likewise, we are concerned that our uncompensated care patient caseload will escalate substantially.”*

National Health Care for the Homeless Council:

*“Like everyone, unhoused people deserve comprehensive, high-quality health care—and access to health insurance to pay for it. The Medicaid program—and specifically the expansion of Medicaid to single adults—is a vital lifeline for people experiencing homelessness and financially strengthens health care systems.”*

National Rural Health Association:

*“Medicaid is more than just health care coverage in rural communities – it plays a significant role in sustaining the viability of rural healthcare systems, including hospitals, clinics, long-term care, and community health centers.”*