



For Immediate Release

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Partnership for Medicaid Reaction to Congressional Budget Office Findings on Medicaid Policy Options and State Responses

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Partnership for Medicaid — a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, and counties — is deeply dismayed about the coverage losses and benefits and provider payment reductions outlined by the recent Congressional Budget Office report on Medicaid policy options being considered by Congress as part of reconciliation. These proposals include reductions to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for the expansion population, limiting current state provider tax policies, instituting per-enrollee caps on Medicaid spending and repealing current regulations related to eligibility and enrollment would result in millions losing coverage, while also increasing the number of uninsured people in the country, reducing benefits and provider payments. Additionally, states would lose hundreds of billions of federal dollars which are used to provide care for numerous individuals, families and children. As we have stated before, state Medicaid programs are already stretched thin financially. We are concerned that the scope of policies needed to meet the budget resolution's instruction to drastically cut hundreds of billions of dollars from federal Medicaid spending would shift more of the program's costs onto state and local governments, providers, plans, patients and families, and local taxpayers that would not be able to absorb them.

Medicaid currently provides health coverage to nearly 80 million people, including half of children with special health care needs, 3 million children in military connected families, more than 40% of children living in rural areas and small towns, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. In communities across the country, including those in rural and underserved areas, Medicaid plays an important role in providing access to maternity care, labor and delivery services, pediatric services, behavioral health services, primary and dental care, long-term services and supports, and other necessary services for patients who cannot afford other options for care.

The Partnership for Medicaid stands ready to work with policymakers to identify more sustainable strategies to strengthen Medicaid and improve on its promise of providing high quality coverage and access to care for populations in need.

Learn more about the Partnership for Medicaid at www.partnershipformedicaid.org