



For Immediate Release

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Partnership for Medicaid Urges a No Vote on Concurrent Budget Resolution

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Partnership for Medicaid — a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, and counties — calls on Congress to vote “no” on the budget resolution which includes at least \$880 billion in cuts for the Energy and Commerce Committee, which would likely significantly impact Medicaid. 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.

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.

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 local taxpayers that would not be able to absorb them. Changes to Medicaid’s financing structure can result in unintended consequences that mean a loss of coverage and care.

Efforts to cut spending in Medicaid will have long-term consequences for patients, providers, and the health care workforce in communities across America. Patients who lose Medicaid coverage will be forced to choose between incurring medical debt or delaying care which will result in worse health outcomes. Health care facilities may experience a rise in uncompensated care and the added financial strain that results in reduced health care services, facility closures, and reduced patient access to care provided by trusted clinicians. Finally, significantly reduced federal funding for Medicaid could lead to the loss of thousands of jobs, especially in rural areas where citizens are more likely to rely on Medicaid for their health coverage and health care providers serve as a major source of employment. The Partnership for Medicaid urges Congress to consider these long-term consequences and welcomes opportunities to collaborate with lawmakers to strengthen the Medicaid program.

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