

January 3, 2025

The Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
*Speaker*  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives

Majority Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

Congratulations on your swearing-in as Members of the 119th U.S. Congress. As you well know, it is both a rare privilege and an extraordinary responsibility to represent and serve the American people.

Americans went to the polls last November to hold policymakers accountable to delivering better affordability for everyday needs like buying groceries, paying rent, and getting health care. To that end, we write today on behalf of over 300 organizations in one united voice to urge you to use your authority to protect, preserve, and strengthen Medicaid, a foundational source of health and economic security for 80 million Americans, and a key funding pillar for the hospitals, clinics, and health system on which we all rely.

The importance of Medicaid cannot be overstated. Medicaid provides insurance for 38 million children and covers more than 40 percent of all births in the country, allowing mothers to deliver safely and children to have a healthy start to life. It is the single most important source of financial support that keeps rural hospitals open to serve the health needs of their communities. It ensures people with disabilities can access critical home and community-based services and secure meaningful job opportunities. It is the largest payer of behavioral health services in the country, providing essential access to mental health and substance use disorder care. And it helps working people stay healthy so they can afford to feed their families and send their kids to school.

During the 2024 election cycle, cutting Medicaid was not a budget solution that American families asked for — and doing so now would betray your constituents of all political affiliations who are seeking more economic security, not less. Cutting Medicaid would shift costs and administrative burdens onto working class families, states and health systems. Proposals to cap funding, reduce the federal share of Medicaid spending, establish block

grants, institute work reporting and community engagement requirements, cut state revenue from provider taxes or otherwise undermine the fundamental structure of the Medicaid program all have the same effect. If instituted, Americans will lose access to lifesaving services, states will be strapped with massive budget holes, hospitals and clinics will lose revenues and be forced to cut staff and scale back services, and American families and workers will be unable to afford essential care and get sicker — leading to a loss in productivity and the economy suffering as a result.

If the 119th Congress is interested in lowering health costs, there are many well-vetted, commonsense and bipartisan proposals to address inefficiencies and inflated prices and eliminate waste from the health care system. We stand ready to work together on those solutions that will provide relief to those struggling with health costs, but there is no question that shredding the health care safety-net would have the opposite impact on American families.

Older Americans and people with disabilities, people living in rural communities, pregnant women, people with chronic illness, small business owners, and children and families across the country are counting on you to stand by the promises you made to secure them better health and financial security. You can deliver on those promises right now by committing that you will protect and strengthen Medicaid.

In 2017, millions upon millions of Americans rose up against proposed cuts and caps and made clear how much they valued Medicaid as a critical health and economic lifeline for themselves, their families, and their communities. The American people are watching once again, and we urge you to take this opportunity to choose a different path: one that secures our country's health and economy.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing engagement.

Respectfully,

**National**

Families USA

AAPD

ACA Consumer Advocacy

ADAP

AFL-CIO

Allergy & Asthma Network

American Association of Birth Centers

American Association on Health and Disability

American Association of Public Health Dentistry

American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA)

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Federation of Teachers

American Friends Service Committee  
American Institute of Dental Public Health  
American Medical Student Association  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR)  
American Network of Oral Health Coalitions  
American Public Health Association  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Assistive Technology Law Center  
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network  
CAEAR Coalition  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
CareQuest Institute for Oral Health  
Caring Across Generations  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation  
Center for Public Representation  
Child Welfare League of America  
Children's Health Fund  
Children's HealthWatch  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Community Catalyst  
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)  
Disability Victory  
Doctors for America  
First Focus on Children  
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Futures Without Violence  
Gerontological Society of America  
Health Care for America Now (HCAN)  
Health Care Voices  
Health Resources in Action  
HealthHIV  
HIV Dental Alliance  
Hydrocephalus Association  
Integrated Care for Kids/InCK Marks Initiative  
Jewish Women International  
Just Solutions  
Justice in Aging  
Lakeshore Foundation

Latino Commission on AIDS  
LeadingAge  
Legal Action Center  
Little Lobbyists  
Long Term Care Community Coalition  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
March for Moms  
March of Dimes  
MHP Salud  
Millennium Campus Network  
MomsRising  
NAACP  
NASTAD  
National Adult Day Services Association (NADSA)  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities  
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD)  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership  
National Center on Caregiving  
National Community Action Partnership  
National Consumers League  
National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH)  
National Council on Severe Autism  
National Diaper Bank Network  
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)  
National Down Syndrome Congress  
National Employment Law Project  
National Health Law Program  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice  
National League for Nursing  
National Organization for Women  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Respite Coalition  
NHMH - No Health without Mental Health  
Overdose Prevention Initiative  
Partners In Health  
Pathways for Rare and Orphan Solutions  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health

## POWER OF 3

Prevention Institute  
Primary Care Development Corporation  
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)  
Religious Community for Reproductive Choice  
Reproductive Freedom for All (formerly NARAL Pro-Choice America)  
School-Based Health Alliance  
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change  
Service Employees International Union  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
Small Business Majority  
Susan G. Komen For the Cure  
Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc.  
The 6:52 Project Foundation, Inc.  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc of the United States  
The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health  
Third Way  
Triage Cancer  
UnidosUS  
United Spinal Association  
USAgings  
VOR - A Voice of Reason  
Young Invincibles  
YWCA USA  
Zero to Three

## **Alabama**

AIDS Alabama  
Alabama Arise  
Alabama State Nurses Association  
Birmingham Friends Meeting  
First Congregational Church, UCC Birmingham  
Hispanic and Immigrant Center of Alabama  
The Knights & Orchids Society  
The Sisters Tuscaloosa  
Equitable Neighborhoods Initiative  
Five Horizons Health Services  
VOICES for Alabama's Children

## **Arizona**

Arizona Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

## **California**

AJL Community Health  
Alzheimer's Los Angeles  
Archstone Foundation  
Asian Resources, Inc.  
California Association for Adult Day Services  
California Association of Food Banks  
California Coverage & Health Initiatives  
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers  
California Health Advocates  
California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association (CLTCOA)  
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network  
California State Association of Counties  
Center For Independence of Individuals with Disabilities  
Children Now  
Citizens for Choice  
Coalition for Compassionate Care of California  
Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations  
Community Access Center  
County Welfare Directors Association of California  
Courage California  
CRLA Foundation  
Equality California  
Family Caregiver Alliance  
Family Voices of California  
FREED Center for Independent Living  
Gray Panthers of San Francisco  
Helping Hands ADP  
Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP)  
LeadingAge California  
Maternal and Child Health Access  
Northeast Valley Health Corporation  
On Lok  
Senior and Disability Action  
Sonrisas Dental Health  
St Jude Neighborhood Health Centers  
Stanford Settlement, Inc.  
The Children's Partnership  
The Public Interest Law Project  
UDW/AFSCME Local 3930  
Western Center on Law and Poverty  
Westside Family Health Center

**Colorado**

Center for Health Progress  
Colorado Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Colorado Access  
Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council  
Colorado Children's Campaign  
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative  
Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition  
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)  
Colorado Safety Net Collaborative  
El Grupo Vida  
Immunize Colorado  
Meapta Inc.  
One Colorado  
Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center  
Show and Tell  
Youth Healthcare Alliance

**Connecticut**

Connecticut Citizen Action Group (CCAG)  
Connecticut Oral Health Initiative

**Delaware**

Christian Council of Delmarva

**District of Columbia**

A Higher Learning  
Longevinet, Inc.  
Rebuilding Independence My Style

**Florida**

Asian American Federation of Florida  
Asian Caribbean Exchange  
Florida Asian Services  
Florida Asian Women Alliance  
Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Florida Health Justice Project  
Florida Policy Institute  
OCA South Florida Chapter

**Georgia**

Serving at-risk families everywhere, Inc.

**Illinois**

AgeOptions  
AIDS Foundation Chicago  
Citizen Action/Illinois  
Erie Family Health Centers  
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group  
Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators  
Illinois Public Health Association  
The Arc of Illinois

**Indiana**

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana  
Hoosier Action

**Iowa**

Disability Rights Iowa  
Iowa Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Iowa Citizen Action Network

**Kansas**

Alliance for a Healthy Kansas  
El Centro, Inc.  
Kansas Action for Children  
Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition  
Kansas Home Care & Hospice Association  
Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

**Kentucky**

Kentucky Voices for Health

**Louisiana**

HOPE ICSS  
Louisiana Democratic Party Disability Caucus

**Maine**

Children's Oral Health Network of Maine  
Consumers for Affordable Health Care  
Maine Equal Justice  
Maine Primary Care Association

**Maryland**

AIDS Action Baltimore  
High Note Consulting, LLC  
Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry



Maryland Dental Action Coalition  
Maryland Health Care For All Coalition  
Public Justice Center

**Massachusetts**

Disability Law Center (MA)  
Disability Policy Consortium  
Health Law Advocates  
Massachusetts Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Personal Disability Consulting, Inc.  
Project Bread

**Michigan**

Center for Civil Justice  
Community Mental Health Association of Michigan  
Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health  
Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute  
Michigan League for Public Policy  
Self-Advocates of Michigan  
The Arc Michigan  
The Arc of Allegan County  
UNIT  
United Way for Southeastern Michigan

**Minnesota**

Reach for Resources

**Missouri**

Missouri Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

**Montana**

Smiles Across Montana

**Nebraska**

3Sisters  
Nebraska Appleseed

**Nevada**

Minority Health Consultants  
Silver State Equality

**New Hampshire**

New Hampshire Association of Pediatric Dentistry, PLLC

NH Legal Assistance

**New Jersey**

Disability Rights New Jersey

New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.

New Jersey Citizen Action

NewBridge Services

NJ Oral Health Coalition

LeadingAge New Jersey & Delaware

**New Mexico**

Casa de Salud

New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty

**New York**

Center for Elder Law & Justice

Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York (CIDNY)

Citizen Action of New York

Grand St Settlement

Medicaid Matters New York

Metro New York Health Care for All

New York Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)

NYS Alliance for Retired Americans

Public Health Solutions

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

**North Carolina**

Disability Rights North Carolina

InReach, Inc.

Jaces Journey

NC Budget & Tax Center

North Carolina Justice Center

Pisgah Legal Services

**North Dakota**

North Dakota Protection & Advocacy Project

**Ohio**

Ohio Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Ohio Poverty Law Center

SEM Food Pantry

UHCAN Ohio

**Oklahoma**

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Oklahoma Policy Institute

**Oregon**

Oregon Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Oregon Community Health Worker Association  
SocialJustice Advocates

**Pennsylvania**

Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of Elders (CARIE)  
Disability Rights Pennsylvania  
HIAS Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health  
Pennsylvania Health Law Project  
Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children  
The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh

**Rhode Island**

Protect Our Healthcare Coalition RI  
Rhode Island Junior Chamber of Commerce

**South Carolina**

South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center

**South Dakota**

South Dakota Society of Pediatric Dentistry

**Tennessee**

Family Voices of Tennessee  
Healthy and Free Tennessee  
Tennessee Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Tennessee Health Care Campaign  
Tennessee Justice Center

**Texas**

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities  
Disability Rights Texas  
Every Body Texas  
REV UP Texas  
Texans Care for Children  
Texas Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
UnitarianUniversalist Fellowship of Hidalgo County Texas

**Utah**

Children's Service Society of Utah  
Disability Law Center of Utah  
Utah Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
Utah Consumer Oral Healthcare Coalition  
Voices for Utah Children

**Virginia**

Birth In Color  
Legal Aid Justice Center  
Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations  
Virginia Health Catalyst

**Washington**

Northwest Health Law Advocates

**West Virginia**

Rise Up WV  
West Virginians for Affordable Healthcare  
WV Citizen Action

**Wisconsin**

Disability Rights Wisconsin  
Kids Forward  
Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network