

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-309, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

On behalf of the undersigned medical organizations representing physicians who provide essential care for patients across the lifespan, we write today to express our deep concerns with the proposed changes to the Medicaid program currently being considered by Congress. Patient care would be threatened by proposals such as altering the federal financing structure of the Medicaid program, limiting eligibility, shifting costs to states, and increasing the administrative complexity of the program.

Medicaid is not just a safety-net program—it is a critical pillar of the American health care system. It provides coverage to over 80 million Americans, including low-income children, pregnant patients, seniors, and people with disabilities. Patients rely on Medicaid for essential surgical and medical care, from emergency life-saving procedures to routine preventive services, including managing chronic conditions. Medicaid provides health care including mental health care coverage to people in every state, every county, and every congressional district. Our members provide care in rural, suburban, and urban communities in a variety of practice settings.

These proposals would cut off the access needed to care for our patients. Changes of the magnitude being proposed, combined with Medicare physician payment rates that have not kept pace with inflation, would result in loss of coverage and risk exacerbating hospital and practice closures, particularly in rural areas, putting lifesaving and routine care out of reach for millions of our patients.

As organizations that represent our nation's physicians, we see firsthand how Medicaid coverage improves health outcomes and saves lives. We urge Congress to maintain coverage to assure health care access for our patients and reject the proposed changes to the program. We welcome the opportunity to work with Congress to identify sustainable strategies to strengthen the program and improve on its promise to provide high-quality coverage and access to care for populations in need, today and in the future.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American College of Cardiology

American College of Chest Physicians  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Osteopathic Internists  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery  
American Society for Surgery of the Hand Professional Organization  
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Nuclear Cardiology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urological Association  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
Association of Women in Rheumatology  
College of American Pathologists  
Heart Failure Society of America  
HIV Medicine Association  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Medical Group Management Association  
National Association of Spine Specialists  
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
Renal Physicians Association  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons