



May 13, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Guthrie and Pallone:

On behalf of the 168 member agencies of Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA), located in every diocese across the United States and its territories, we respectfully urge the Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee to oppose any changes to the current Medicaid program, particularly substantial cuts that would directly impact the poor and vulnerable, as well as the Catholic Charities agencies that serve them.

Any changes to the current Medicaid program risk reducing access to essential health care and behavioral health services for individuals with nowhere else to turn. We respectfully urge you not to further burden those already facing immense hardship. Even modest cuts to Medicaid would have profound and lasting consequences for the most poor and vulnerable. These are not sheer numbers; they are children, seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income families who rely on Medicaid as a vital lifeline.

Current Status on Medicaid and how changes impact poor and vulnerable populations:

- Nearly 80 million Americans (low-income families, mothers, children, elderly, disabled individuals, the unhoused) rely on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), including nearly half of U.S. children and those with special health care needs, so cuts would hit the most vulnerable hardest.
- Over 60% of beneficiaries are people of color, meaning cuts would limit critical services in these communities. Medicaid supports over 15.5 million people with disabilities—only 34% qualify for SSI—and 2021 saw nearly 5 million beneficiaries treated for substance use disorders; further restrictions could jeopardize these vital services.

- Medicaid cuts would disproportionately impact people living in rural communities and small towns -- the very communities that already have lower incomes, fewer opportunities for employment and less access to social services.
- More than 12 million dually eligible Americans use Medicaid to offset Medicare costs, and 63% of nursing home residents depend on it for care. ("[No Medicaid Cuts.](#)" U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging. Fact Sheet).
- Medicaid pays for 41% of all births in America, making it a pro-life resource.
- 63% of nursing home residents have Medicaid.
- Medicaid is also the largest payer of behavioral health services, including mental health, recovery and substance use services.
- Additionally, Medicaid plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness by supporting health care providers serving these populations through coordinated care.

As you deliberate on the proposed Medicaid reductions included in the Reconciliation Act of 2025, we ask that you carefully consider the consequences such changes would have on our communities. CCUSA holds a firm policy position that alterations to Medicaid would result in a serious decline in both the quantity and quality of services available. As frontline providers, we cannot absorb or offset the losses that would result from cuts to federal Medicaid funding.

Sincerely,

L. Tavaréz

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