



ACTION ALERT!

Protect Medicaid, Rehabilitation and Health Care !

Contact Your Senators Now!

Yesterday, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) announced that **22 million Americans would lose healthcare coverage over ten years** if the Senate's version of the healthcare bill, the Better Care Reconciliation Act, passes. There are Republican Senators on the fence about the Senate healthcare bill, which among other provisions, transforms the Medicaid program from an entitlement program to a per capita cap or block grant program with the States responsible for administration. Only three Republican Senators are needed to help stop this bill from passing.

NOW is the time to call your Senators to voice your opposition to this harmful legislation.

Everyone should call, but the following States are especially critical: Alaska (Sen. Murkowski and Sen Sullivan); Colorado (Sen. Gardner); Ohio (Sen. Portman); Maine (Sen. Collins); Nevada (Sen. Heller); and West Virginia (Sen. Capito). Please share this message with friends and family who live in these States.

This proposal has significant consequences for people with brain injury who are Medicaid eligible and receiving services through HCBS waiver programs or State Plan Services. In addition, Americans will not be guaranteed that rehabilitation and care needed after a brain injury will be covered through their insurance plans. This bill eliminates consumer protections by allowing States to waive insurance from providing essential health care benefits requirements; to allow lifetime and annual caps on coverage; to charge more for seniors and for persons with pre-existing conditions.

Although most Americans get their health insurance through an employer -- not through the government or health insurance exchanges -- both the House and Senate bill would **strip the Affordable Care Act provision requiring larger employers to provide affordable coverage.**

Today, the CPR/HAB/ITEM Hill Day is taking place which will feature a briefing on the **Value of Rehabilitation and Habilitation** starting at noon (ET). Check out livestream of the event by clicking on any one of the three links below.

- <https://preserverehab.org/advocacy/livestream-for-briefing/>
- <https://habcoalition.wordpress.com/advocacy/livestream-for-briefing/>
- <https://itemcoalition.org/advocacy/livestream-for-briefing/>

Make a Call or Email Today!



You can call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and an operator will directly connect you to your Senator's office. *Don't know who your Senators are?* You can find out who and how to contact him or her by clicking [here](#). If you need help with information or scripts, click here to [call](#) or here to [email](#).

Remember, as an employee, you may contact your Senators *on your own time -- using your own phone and email -- as a constituent*. You may also want to share this message to members of your advisory council/board, families, associations and anyone in your State involved with brain injury.

Key messages:

- **Do NOT** support the Senate proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act.
- **Do NOT** allow the Medicaid program to be gutted. Caps and block grants will decimate the program, which people with disabilities, including individuals with brain injury, and seniors who rely on Medicaid for critical healthcare and long-term services and supports need.
- **Do NOT** allow States to opt out of requiring health plans to cover basic health care, including rehabilitation, and
- **KEEP it AFFORDABLE** for people with pre-existing conditions, including individuals with brain injury.



Please feel free to forward and share with disability advocates, families and individuals with brain injury in your State.

Medicaid cuts and caps hurt US

1 in 5 Americans relies on Medicaid to stay healthy and independent. Medicaid cuts and per capita caps mean less care, lost jobs, and greater hardships for families, especially in rural areas.



Congress: Don't cut and cap Medicaid

Supporting Organizations

- AARP
- ACCSES
- ADAPT
- AFL-CIO
- AFSCME
- Alliance for Aging Research
- Alliance for Retired Americans
- Allies for Independence/Advance CLASS
- AMDA - The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
- American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- American Association of People with Disabilities
- American Association of Service Coordinators
- American Baptist Home Mission Societies
- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Diabetes Association
- American Foundation for the Blind
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Medical Association
- American Music Therapy Association
- The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.
- American Psychological Association
- American Society on Aging
- The Amputee Coalition
- The Arc of the United States
- Association for Gerontology and Human Development in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (AGHDHBCU)
- Association of Jewish Aging Services
- Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
- Autism Society of America
- Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Baystate Health
- Baselon Center for Mental Health Law
- B'nai B'rith International
- Brain Injury Association of America
- CareSouth Carolina, Inc.
- Caring Across Generations
- The Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA)
- Center for Elder Care & Advanced Illness
- Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
- Center for Medicare Advocacy
- Center for Public Representation
- Center to Advance Palliative Care
- Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)
- Christian Reformed Disability Concerns Ministry
- Christiana Care Health System
- Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
- Coastal Medical
- Community Catalyst
- Conference of Major Superiors of Men
- Council for Exceptional Children
- Disability Concerns Ministry (Reformed Church in America)
- Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund
- Disciples Home Missions
- Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)
- Eastonsails
- Families USA
- Feminist Majority Foundation
- First Focus Campaign for Children
- Foundation for Healthy Generations
- GBMC HealthCare System
- Henry Ford Health System
- Human Impact Partners
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- The Jewish Federation of North America
- Junction in Aging
- LeadingAge
- Lupus Foundation of America
- Lutheran Services in America
- Lutheran Services in America - Disability Network
- Medicare Rights Center
- MomsRising.org
- National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
- National Adult Day Services Association
- National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
- National Alliance for Caregiving
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- National Association of Community Health Centers
- National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
- National Association of State Directors of Special Education
- National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
- National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)
- National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
- National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
- National Council for Behavioral Health
- National Council of Churches
- National Council on Aging
- National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)
- National Down Syndrome Congress
- National Health Law Program
- National Hispanic Council on Aging
- National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation
- National Patient Advocate Foundation
- NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
- Parent to Parent USA
- PHI
- Prevention Institute
- Providence St. Joseph Health
- Roanoke-Chowan Community Health Center
- Service Employees International Union
- Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces
- Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network
- TASH
- Union for Reform Judaism
- United Cerebral Palsy
- The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
- The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- Visiting Nurse Associations of America (VNA)

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National Association of State Head Injury Administrators, PO Box 878, Waitsfield, VT 05673

