

March 24, 2025

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

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

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Crapo, and Ranking Member Wyden,

We write on behalf of the undersigned organizations representing the Patient Access to Responsible Care Alliance (PARCA). As member organizations of PARCA, we represent over four million non-MD/DO Medicare recognized health and mental health providers who provide high-quality, evidence-based care to millions of Americans, especially to those living in rural and underserved areas. We are deeply concerned with reports of potentially large cuts to Medicaid during the budget reconciliation process and the significant impact these potential cuts would have on patients and providers.

As you know, Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage is essential for the health and well-being of the nearly 80 million patients covered by these programs¹. Of the patients covered by Medicaid, 37% are children, and 11% are Americans with disabilities.² It is important to note that “Non-elderly adults and children in small towns and rural areas are more likely than those living in metro areas to rely on Medicaid/CHIP for their health insurance.”³ Additionally, Medicaid covers over 40% of births in the United States⁴ and pays for more than half of long-term supports and services. Medicaid also provides critical coverage for patients to access behavioral health services⁵ and treatment for substance use disorders.⁶

¹ data.modernmedicaid.org/MMA/

² Ibid

³ [Medicaid’s Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas – Center For Children and Families](#)

⁴ <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/births-financed-by-medicaid>

⁵ Danielson, et. al. *Journal of Attention Disorders* 2024, Vol. 28(8) 1225–1235

⁶ [Chapter 6: Substance Use Disorder and Maternal and Infant Health](#)

As health care providers, we are deeply concerned with the impact of cuts to Medicaid would have on the health care system and their potential to harm our most vulnerable patients. Further, these cuts will threaten the viability of practices that treat Medicaid patients, financially destabilizing and having a disproportionate impact on those who provide care to underserved and rural communities. If the potential cuts are implemented, it will leave states with difficult choices on how to offset reductions. This could result in states decreasing Medicaid coverage for groups, reducing provider payment rates which are already extremely low, or eliminating ‘optional benefits’ under state Medicaid programs. Of note, several of the services furnished by our members are considered optional under Medicaid or in specific programs under Medicaid such as the Home and Community Based Services. Cuts to those services could eliminate patient access to these critical services and would be devastating to the patients we serve. This includes services provided by physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, audiologists, social workers, psychologists and chiropractors.

Given the impact of large cuts to millions of patients and communities across the country, we urge you to find other non-health care related cost savings. Medicaid provides critical support for vulnerable patients who are seen by our members every day for primary care, pediatrics, physical and occupational therapy, behavioral health, maternal health, long-term care for the elderly and more. Therefore, the undersigned organizations urge you to reconsider these potential cuts and instead strengthen this vital program.

We stand ready to work with Congress to implement reforms to Medicaid that reduce costs, eliminate overly burdensome regulations, improve patient outcomes, and ensure access to care. If we can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact any of the organizations individually, or Jessica Talbert, Chair of PARCA at jtalbert@aanp.org.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Audiology
American Academy of Physician Associates
American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Chiropractic Association
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Psychological Association Services
American Speech–Language–Hearing Association
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Social Workers
National League for Nursing