



For Immediate Release

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### **Statement from the Partnership for Medicaid on Proposals to Cut Medicaid**

**WASHINGTON** — The Partnership for Medicaid — a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, and counties — calls on Congress to reject cuts to Medicaid during the budget reconciliation process. The Partnership for Medicaid stands ready to work with policymakers to identify more sustainable strategies to strengthen Medicaid and improve on its promise of providing high-quality coverage and access to care for populations in need.

Medicaid currently provides health coverage to more than 80 million low-income people, including millions of children, including children with complex medical conditions, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. In communities across the country, Medicaid plays an important role in providing access to maternity care, labor and delivery services, pediatric services, behavioral health services, primary and dental care, long-term services and supports, and other necessary services for patients who cannot afford other options for care.

State Medicaid programs are already stretched thin financially. We are concerned that the proposals being discussed would shift more of the program's costs onto state and local governments, providers, plans, patients, and local taxpayers that would not be able to absorb them. We also are concerned about efforts to limit each state's ability to expand coverage and ensure adequate payment for covered services.

These efforts to cut costs will have long-term consequences. For example, reductions in coverage will result in increased costs of uncompensated care, and the added financial strain on safety net providers could result in closures of essential services. In addition, reduced federal funding for Medicaid could lead to the loss of thousands of jobs, especially in rural areas where citizens are more likely to rely on Medicaid for their health coverage and health care providers serve as a major source of employment. Lastly, reducing support for the Medicaid program could result in longer term and higher health care costs when conditions are not treated early.

Learn more about the Partnership for Medicaid at [www.partnershipformedicaid.org](http://www.partnershipformedicaid.org).