



Medicaid is at Risk - Act NOW!

June 5, 2017

Policymakers in Washington are asking for big changes to Medicaid that will mean less money for the programs people with disabilities depend on. The American Health Care Act (AHCA), if passed, would cut over \$800 billion from Medicaid over the next ten years. This will mean a LOT less money for Louisiana to provide the services that people with disabilities depend on to live, work and be healthy members of their communities.

What will be cut?

Medicaid funding pays for waiver programs (i.e., NOW, Children's Choice, Supports Waiver, Residential Options Waiver), EPSDT, nursing, school and other therapies, doctor visits, surgeries, cancer treatments, transportation, personal care services, and many other supports and services people with disabilities and seniors need.

Today the federal government pays most of the cost (62.28%) for most Medicaid services in Louisiana and even more for people newly eligible through the Medicaid Expansion. The AHCA would change federal funding from a cost reimbursement system to one where Louisiana would get an amount of federal dollars for each person covered by Medicaid - a Per Capita Cap. Medicaid recipients would be put into different groups. Everyone with a disability would be placed into the same group and the state would receive a set amount of money to serve everyone in the group, regardless of actual costs. More importantly is that each cap or limit would not increase each year as fast as the expected costs for services will increase. With less federal money for Medicaid services, Louisiana would have to pick up more of the cost. It is unlikely our state would generate the funds to do this, resulting in the elimination or reduction of Medicaid programs and services.

Read the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities' (CCD) [letter](#) to the Senate explaining why they "cannot overstate the danger facing the millions of adults and children with disabilities if the proposals related to Medicaid in the AHCA are adopted by the Senate."

What Can You Do?

If you are concerned about how your Medicaid services will be impacted by the ACHA, join the Movement to #SaveMedicaid. Tuesday, June 6th is #SaveMedicaid Day across the nation. Click [here](#) for more information from CCD on how to get involved in this movement on social media.

Contact the two Louisiana Senators and your Congressman to let them know how you feel about the proposed cuts to Medicaid.

Louisiana U.S. Senators

- [Bill Cassidy](#)
 - Read Senator Cassidy's [Patient Freedom Act of 2017](#) introduced on January 23, 2017
- [John Kennedy](#)

Call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. A switchboard operator will connect you directly with the Senate office you request.

Louisiana U.S. Representatives

- [Ralph Abraham](#)
- [Garret Graves](#)
- [Clay Higgins](#)
- [Mike Johnson](#)
- [Cedric Richmond](#)
- [Steve Scalise](#)

Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

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