



Action Alert #25 - Contact Senators Cassidy & Kennedy During July 4th Recess

June 28, 2017

U. S. Senate Delays Vote on Health Care Bill - Advocacy is WORKING, but MUST CONTINUE!

Thanks to YOU and thousands of others who have voiced their concerns, the U.S. Senate has delayed a vote on the health care bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) until after the July 4th recess. While the vote may be delayed, the bill is certainly not dead, and we **MUST NOT** stop advocating! If this bill passes, the impact to people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in Louisiana will be **DEVASTATING!**

How This Affects You:

ALL of the services below are funded through Medicaid (and many others not listed):

- LA's home and community based waivers (NOW, Children's Choice, Supports Waiver, ROW, Community Choices, ADHC) that enable you to stay at home in your community - or are you on the waiting list for one of these waivers?
- Personal care attendant services
- Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
- Speech, physical and/or occupational therapy
- EPSDT (personal care services, nursing, all medically necessary services)
- Healthcare - doctors' visits, hospitalization, medicine, lab work, medical transportation, etc.

The proposed U. S. Senate healthcare bill (and the one previously passed by the U. S. House) would restructure the way the federal government provides funding to states for Medicaid by applying per capita caps. The bill would **CUT Medicaid funding by almost \$800 Billion**. This will force states to cut services and eligibility for services. Louisiana already doesn't have enough money to fund the services people with disabilities need. (Example: Waiver waiting list of over 15,000 people!) Less money from the federal government would be devastating! For more information read this statement from Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities [here](#).

Over the next two weeks Senators will negotiate and try to get the votes needed to pass the bill. **Senators Cassidy and Kennedy need to hear why Medicaid is important to you and that NO CUTS and NO CAPS to Medicaid are ACCEPTABLE.**

How To Take Action

Call, email, or visit Senator Bill Cassidy and Senator John Kennedy before Friday, July 7th. They will be in Louisiana all next week for the July 4th Congressional recess.

Senator Bill Cassidy

Click [here](#) for LA and Washington phone #s and locations (scroll to bottom of page)
You can also send an email directly from his website by clicking [here](#).

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/billcassidy>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BillCassidy>

Senator John Kennedy

Click [here](#) for LA and Washington phone #s and locations (scroll to bottom of page)
You can also send an email directly from his website on that same webpage.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SenatorJohnKennedy/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SenJohnKennedy>

Need help on what to say?

State your name, where you live, and what Medicaid services are important to you, or someone you know. Let the Senator or staff person know that the proposed cuts and caps to Medicaid in the Senate healthcare bill will be devastating to people with disabilities in Louisiana. Add any other opinion you have about the bill.

Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108

email: info@laddc.org

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates

twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

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