



Action Alert #25 Update - Continue Contacts with Senators Cassidy & Kennedy

July 6, 2017

Today and tomorrow are the last two days Senators Cassidy and Kennedy will be in Louisiana before they head back to Washington, D.C. to resume negotiations on the healthcare bill and YOUR MEDICAID SERVICES! If this bill passes, the impact to people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in Louisiana will be DEVASTATING!

If you have already contacted Senators Cassidy and Kennedy, **CALL THEM AGAIN!** If you have not yet made contact, **DO SO TODAY.** Time is running out!

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](#).

Senators are negotiating 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 and continue contacts until the Senate votes on the bill. They will be in Louisiana through the end of this week (July 7th). If you can't get an appointment with the Senator, you can drop by one of their LA offices to leave a message in person.

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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