

Protect the Lifeline: Act Now to Preserve Health Care for People with Disabilities and Seniors



Action Needed:

We urge you to call your Senators and House members on Tuesday, January 31 or Wednesday, February 1 to protect the Affordable Care Act (ACA also known as, Obamacare), Medicaid and Medicare.

The call-in number is 866-426-2631

When you call, you will hear a brief overview of the issues and will be asked to enter your zip code before being transferred to your members of Congress.

Talking Points:

1. State your name and that you are a constituent of the Senator or House member and briefly how you are related to someone with a disability.
2. **No repeal of the ACA without simultaneous replacement**
If Congress votes to repeal the ACA, a replacement package that provides equivalent or improved access to affordable, quality health coverage must be included in the same legislation.
3. **No cuts to and restructuring of Medicaid**
Seniors and people with disabilities rely on the Medicaid program. It is the primary public source of funding for long-term services and supports. Program cuts, along with block grant or per capita cap proposals would hurt people who have no alternative means of paying for essential services.
4. **Preserve Medicare for current and future seniors and people with disabilities**
Medicare is a huge success story, with strong support from all Americans. Premium support and other restructuring proposals to shift more costs onto beneficiaries would make health care far less affordable and accessible to seniors and people with disabilities.

Background

The President and Congress are moving quickly to dismantle the Affordable Care Act (ACA also known as, Obamacare), and major cuts to and restructuring of Medicaid and Medicare may not be far behind. We must let policymakers know that these changes will hurt seniors and people with disabilities. In partnership with the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities and the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO), The Arc of New Jersey urges you, your family and friends to participate in the call-in days.

Your Advocacy Tool Belt

We know that calling your representatives may feel overwhelming. We want to help you feel more comfortable and confident in your advocacy role. Below are some resources to help. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us fap@arcnj.org.

- **Commonly Used Legislative Lingo** – bit.ly/commonlegislativelingo
- **How to Build a Relationship with your Legislators** – bit.ly/buildrelationshipwithlegislators
- **Tips for responding to action alerts when calling** – bit.ly/tipsforcallinglegislators