February 13, 2025

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**RE: Proposed Cuts to Medicaid Program**

Dear….

The undersigned organizations represent the interests of the 385,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) who provide essential care for patients in nearly every health care setting across the country. NPs are advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) who are prepared at the masters or doctoral level to provide primary, acute, chronic and specialty care to patients of all ages and backgrounds. NPs provide a substantial portion of the high-quality[[1]](#footnote-1), cost-effective[[2]](#footnote-2) care that our communities require. We are deeply concerned with the reports on the budget reconciliation process’ proposed cuts to Medicaid, and the significant impact these proposed cuts would have on patients and providers.

Nurse practitioners are deeply committed to the Medicaid program as 80% of NPs see Medicaid patients, and NPs are “significantly more likely….to care for people on Medicaid.”[[3]](#footnote-3) In fact, according to the Medicare Provider Advisory Commission (MedPAC), NPs and PAs comprise approximately one-third of the primary care workforce, and up to half in rural areas.[[4]](#footnote-4)

As you know, Medicaid coverage is essential for the health and well-being of the over 70 million patients covered by the program, as well as the over 7 million children covered by the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).[[5]](#footnote-5) Of the patients covered by Medicaid, 37% are children, and 11% are Americans with disabilities.[[6]](#footnote-6) It is important to note that “Non-elderly adults and children in small towns and rural areas are more likely than those living in metro areas to rely on Medicaid/CHIP for their health insurance.”[[7]](#footnote-7) Additionally, Medicaid covers over 40% of births in the United States[[8]](#footnote-8) and pays for more than half of long-term supports and services. Medicaid also provides critical coverage for patients to access behavioral health services[[9]](#footnote-9) and treatment for substance use disorders.[[10]](#footnote-10)

As health care providers, we are deeply concerned with the impact of these cuts on the health care system and their potential to harm our most vulnerable patients. Further, these cuts will threaten the viability of practices that treat Medicaid patients, financially destabilizing and having a disproportionate impact on those who provide care to underserved and rural communities. Given the impact of these cuts to millions of patients and communities across the country, we urge you to reconsider. Medicaid provides critical support for vulnerable patients who are seen by our members everyday for primary care, pediatrics, behavioral health, maternal health, long-term care for the elderly and more. Therefore, the undersigned organizations urge you to reconsider these cuts and instead strengthen this vital program.

1. <https://www.aanp.org/images/documents/publications/qualityofpractice.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.aanp.org/images/documents/publications/costeffectiveness.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [Nurse Practitioners: A Solution to America’s Primary Care Crisis | American Enterprise Institute - AEI](https://www.aei.org/research-products/report/nurse-practitioners-a-solution-to-americas-primary-care-crisis/) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.medpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Jun22_MedPAC_Report_to_Congress_SEC.pdf> (see Chapter 2.) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. [data.modernmedicaid.org/MMA/](https://data.modernmedicaid.org/MMA/) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. [Medicaid’s Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas – Center For Children and Families](https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2025/01/15/medicaids-role-in-small-towns-and-rural-areas/) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/births-financed-by-medicaid [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Danielson, et. Al Journal of Attention Disorders 2024, Vol. 28(8) 1225–1235 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. [Chapter 6: Substance Use Disorder and Maternal and Infant Health](https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Chapter-6-Substance-Use-Disorder-and-Maternal-and-Infant-Health.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-10)