




June 2017

Call or email your Senator to urge them to **vote NO** on the American Health Care Act, that places arbitrary caps on how much Medicaid funding a child receives. Call the Senate switchboard and ask to be connected to your Senator at 202-224-3121.

Use these talking points:

1. As a constituent and a school nurse, I oppose the passage of the American Health Care Act. Rather than close the gap and eliminate the rate of uninsured children in America, the current proposal will ration the health care America's most vulnerable children receive and undermine the ability of school districts to meet the educational needs of students with disabilities and students in poverty.
2. Currently \$4 to 5 billion dollars (one percent of Medicaid) flows to school districts every year to address potential barriers to education for students with disabilities and co-existing health conditions. The current proposal will jeopardize students' ability to receive comprehensive care at schools and create barriers for preventive and chronic medical care.
3. Schools are part of the safety net for children and Medicaid plays a significant role, particularly in the funding of needed medical services for children in special education under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) through their IEP (Individualized Education Program), but also for those students without IEPs who are eligible for Medicaid.
4. Increasingly, schools are partners in health promotion and interventions for students' physical and mental health that helps them be successful and ready to learn.

SAMPLE TWEETS - GENERAL EDUCATION	Sample Graphic
<p>Schools rely on Medicaid to comply with #IDEA. The Senate must #ProtectOurCare to support students with disabilities.</p>	
<p>Without Medicaid, schools won't be able to provide students with critical health screenings like diabetes and asthma diagnosis #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Cuts to Medicaid in #AHCA mean schools must compete with hospitals for \$ and students will lose http://to.pbs.org/2qbombV #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Here are 8 ways Medicaid services support kids and schools. http://bit.ly/2r1Qphj #ProtectOurCare</p>	 <p>8 Facts About Kids on Medicaid and the Services They Receive in Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 39% of all children under the age of 19 have Medicaid through Medicaid. 2 46% of Medicaid beneficiaries are children. 3 19% of the costs for Medicaid are derived from providing healthcare for children. 4 68.6% of states only allow local Medicaid programs use Medicaid reimbursement to pay for kids' critical service payments. 5 45.2% of states use Medicaid dollars to support health-related services for students (communication, autism and behavior treatment, diets, teaching strategies). 6 50% of states have taken steps to increase Medicaid enrollment of children. 7 70% to 80% of states receive special health services in schools, which include vision services for screening. 8 1% the amount of total Medicaid spending that goes to schools.
<p>#Medicaid helps pay the salaries of nurses, counselors & other health staff, helping all students thrive #ProtectOurCare</p>	 <p>In 2017, 88 percent of school superintendents reported that they need Medicaid funding to keep school nurses, school counselors, speech therapists, and other health professionals on staff.</p>
<p>Superintendents, district leaders are “overwhelmingly concerned” and “deeply worried” about cuts to #Medicaid. #ProtectOurCare http://bit.ly/2r0JQJS</p>	
<p>Nearly 1/3 of children, and nearly 2/3 of children with disabilities, rely on #Medicaid for healthcare. http://bit.ly/2s01Kvs #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Cutting #Medicaid will impact all children, not just low-income students and students with disabilities. http://bit.ly/2s01NYa</p>	

<p>#ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>#Medicaid gives kids a better chance for a healthy future. Schools are trusted, easily accessible places, able to identify children in need. #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>#Medicaid cuts may force schools to use general ed \$ to fund special ed, resulting in fewer teachers & ↑ class sizes #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Medicaid cuts in #AHCA could mean 12,539 school nurses lose their job, says @EdProgress http://ampr.gs/2nwyAW2 #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Medicaid cuts in #AHCA could mean 9,877 school social workers lose their job, says @EdProgress http://ampr.gs/2nwyAW2 #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Medicaid cuts in #AHCA could mean 8,094 school counselors lose their job, says @EdProgress http://ampr.gs/2nwyAW2 #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Medicaid cuts in #AHCA could mean 9,500 school physical therapists lose their job, says @EdProgress http://ampr.gs/2nwyAW2 #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Medicaid cuts in AHCA could mean 10,000 speech-language professionals lose their job, says @EdProgress http://ampr.gs/2nwyAW2 #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>The #AHCA's cuts to Medicaid puts kids w/ disabilities and their families at risk #ProtectOurCare #SavetheACA http://ampr.gs/2p5A6vm</p>	
<p>Over half of all kids w/ disabilities rely on Medicaid – the #AHCA puts their health & development at risk http://ampr.gs/2p5A6vm #ProtectOurCare</p>	
<p>Kids w/ disabilities need Medicaid for early intervention & other services. The #AHCA threatens their care. http://ampr.gs/2p5A6vm #ProtectOurCare</p>	