



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

April 27, 2017

House Considering Vote on Harmful Health Care Bill

Call Congress Now

A new amendment to the AHCA is winning the support of the House Freedom Caucus making it more likely that a vote by the House of Representatives could happen as early as this weekend. Action is needed immediately to stop the American Health Care Act (AHCA) from being approved by the House of Representatives. This is the bill that proposes to fundamentally change the Medicaid program by eliminating the federal commitment to serve all those who qualify for the program and shifting the cost burden to states. Instead, per capita caps and a block grant approach would be implemented. Many provisions of the Affordable Care Act that are critical to people with disabilities would be repealed.

The AHCA cuts \$880 billion out of the Medicaid program and uses it to help pay for tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations. The Medicaid changes are particularly devastating to people with disabilities. Under the cap-and-cut proposal, the federal government would no longer provide funding for health care services and community services beyond the capped (or fixed) amount. It also ends the Medicaid expansion population subsidy payments to states earlier and promotes work requirements for enrollees.

The latest proposal makes a bad bill even worse, particularly for people with pre-existing health conditions. The bill would allow states to seek waivers that would result in higher premium payments for people with pre-existing conditions, including people with disabilities. The new amendment also would allow states to seek waivers from the Affordable Care Act's requirement to provide essential health benefits, including crucial services for people with disabilities such as mental health and substance use disorder services, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, preventative and wellness services and chronic disease management, and pediatric services. The cumulative effect of these changes would make it nearly impossible for people with pre-existing conditions to find affordable health plans that meet their basic health care service needs.

We need you to act:

Make a call today: Republicans need to keep hearing from people now to #RejectRepeal and #SaveMedicaid. Feel free to use SEIU's call-in numbers with your members to get calls going into the House and Senate: English: 866-426-2631; Spanish: 877-736-7831

Key messages:

- Do NOT support the American Health Care Act.
- Do NOT “Cap-and-cut” Medicaid. This would decimate the program on which people with disabilities and seniors rely for critical healthcare and community services.
- Do NOT allow states to opt out of requiring health plans to cover basic health care and keep it affordable for people with pre-existing conditions, including people with disabilities.