

Coalition to Protect Texas Medicaid

Leading voices representing the faith, medical, hospital, patient, long-term care and consumer communities.

May 21, 2025

Dear Texas Congressional Leaders:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing in opposition to the budget reconciliation bill as adopted by the House Energy and Commerce Committee on May 15, 2025. It calls for \$625 billion in cuts to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) over the next 10 years. The bill is wrong for Texas. *We respectfully ask that you reject cuts that would hurt all of us.*

Together, Medicaid and CHIP cover 4.1 million people – 13% of Texans,¹ including pregnant women, children, people with disabilities and seniors. Enrollees – your constituents – are made healthier by having access to comprehensive health care, including:

- preventive and primary care, helping children do well in school;
- prenatal and postpartum care, promoting better birth outcomes for women and babies;
- cancer care, helping women access breast cancer treatment;
- rehabilitative services, aiding veterans recover from injuries;
- mental health services, helping foster children thrive; and
- attendant care, allowing people with disabilities to live at home and lead productive lives.

Already, Texas Medicaid is one of the leanest programs in the country, with coverage limited to the most vulnerable. It is also one of the most efficient. On average, Texas Medicaid spending is 38% lower than the national average² and lawmakers set biannual targets to reduce costs even more.

Yet, if the reconciliation bill is adopted as proposed, the state portion of Texas Medicaid spending would decline 9% per Texan over the next decade.³ We cannot yet determine what this exact dollar amount would be, but we know it would be significant because as many as 540,000 of our fellow Texans would lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage⁴ (a conservative estimate that does not consider the interplay between Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act cuts specified within the bill).

Each day we see the benefits of Medicaid and CHIP coverage to our patients, congregants, family members and communities. And based on this experience, **we can say unequivocally that the proposed cuts will do harm.**

The bill contains provisions to increase Medicaid red tape and bureaucracy, which are contrary to improving government efficiency. These changes include:

- Shortening Medicaid retroactive coverage from three months to one, thereby increasing Texans' medical debt;

¹ [Healthcare Statistics | Texas Health and Human Services; U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Texas](#)

² [Texas Medicaid and CHIP Reference Guide - 15th Edition](#)

³ [State-Level Context for Federal Medicaid Cuts of \\$625 Billion and Enrollment Declines of 10.3 Million | KFF](#)

⁴ [How Will the 2025 Reconciliation Bill Affect the Uninsured Rate in Each State?: Allocating CBO's Partial Estimates of Coverage Loss | KFF](#)

- Reinstating the CHIP 90-day waiting period, shifting more uncompensated care to pediatric clinicians and hospitals; and
- Burdening seniors and people with disabilities with paperwork that would hinder their ability to get and keep vital services, such as long-term care.

Beyond the direct benefits to enrollees, Medicaid is important to the health and financial wellbeing of all Texans. Medicaid funding ensures the financial viability of rural hospitals, community clinics, children's hospitals, and mental health networks, among others. By adding red tape and hamstringing Texas' use of provider taxes, the bill would harm Medicaid providers' finances, putting them in the untenable position of eventually cutting services, staff, or both.

Hardest hit would be services tied most closely to Medicaid – pediatric services, maternity care, and behavioral health. *Such cuts would hurt not just Medicaid enrollees but every Texan who seeks care at a community clinic or rural hospital.*

Moreover, Medicaid funding directly and indirectly supports tens of thousands of jobs in every single Texas community. The projected impact of a reduction in Medicaid funding of this magnitude could lead to the loss of up to 55,000 Texas jobs *in 2026 alone*,⁵ with half from the healthcare industry. Rural Texas would take the heaviest hit because rural hospitals are the first or second largest employers in these communities. Yet the bill would freeze supplemental funding dollars at 2025 levels for the next 10 years, which in a fast-growing state would hobble its ability to adapt to evolving local health care needs.

Medicaid health care coverage is fundamental to Texans' wellbeing, economic security, and freedom. Program dollars support the health care system on which every single Texan relies, while also bolstering Texas' economic prosperity.

Like the thread in a tapestry, Texas Medicaid weaves throughout the state's entire health care system and economy. Pull it and these systems will fray. *By cutting Medicaid, the budget reconciliation bill would put the lives and livelihoods of all Texans at risk.*

Please stand with Texans and oppose reforms that hurt our state.

Statewide and National Organizations

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, District 11 (Texas)
 Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, Texas Chapter
 Children's Defense Fund-Texas
 Christelle Clear Speech Therapy, PLLC
 Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
 Every Body Texas
 EveryTexan
 Family ADDventures Ed Therapy and Advocacy
 Feeding Texas
 Free Battered Texas Women
 Knowledge Is Justice Incorporated
 Lancaster Parent Support
 NAMI-Texas

⁵ [Potential 2026 Job Loss in States Due to Broad-Based Cuts to Medicaid and SNAP Federal](#)

National Association of Social Workers - Texas Chapter
Neurodivergent Friends
Nurse-Family Partnership
Southwestern Texas Lutheran Synod, ELCA
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
Texas Autism Society
Texans Care for Children
Texas Chapter, American College of Physicians
Texas Coalition for Healthy Minds
Texas College of Emergency Physicians
Texas Health Institute
Texas Impact
Texas Parent-to-Parent
Texas Pediatric Society
Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
Texas Primary Care Coalition
Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals
Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministries
Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition
The Arc of Texas
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
The Safe Alliance
Treaty Oak Law Group, PLLC
United Ways of Texas
Upstream USA
Young Invincibles

Regional and Local Organizations

Black Mammias ATX, Austin
Bridges Training Foundation
Cactus Health
Callie Clinic
Central Texas Nurse Practitioners
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Odessa
City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
Daisy Consulting, Houston
Dallas Peace and Justice Initiative
Disciples of Christ, Fort Worth
E3 Alliance, Central Texas
Easter Seals Central Texas
Family to Family Network, Greater Houston
Friends Congregational Church, UCC, College Station
GALS, Giving Austin Labor Support
Haven Health
Healthy Futures of Texas, San Antonio
Jerri Savuto Girls Center
Mental Health America of Greater Houston

National Council of Jewish Women-Austin
Navigation Services of Georgetown
South Texas Family Planning and Health Corporation
University Christian Church, Fort Worth
UTMB Health, Galveston
Valley AIDS Council
WellnessPointe
Women's and Men's Health Services of the Coastal Bend
Women's Health Care Center, Inc

Individuals

Doug Curran, MD, Athens, family physician
Kimberley Avila Edwards, MD, Austin, pediatrician
Ramon Gil-Egui, Austin
Rev. Dr. T. Randall Smith
Maria Scranton, MD, Austin, pediatrician
Stacy V. Lasits, Denton

For questions or more information, please contact:
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