

# Continued Threat to Medicaid

**THIS IS REAL and THIS IS URGENT**

Senators Cassidy and Graham introduced a bill last week to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This bill, like previous proposals, would make huge cuts to and place caps on the Medicaid program, end the Medicaid expansion and marketplace subsidies in the ACA, and allow states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

This bill would be devastating to people with disabilities and their families, women and children, seniors, low-income Americans, and threaten access to community living, employment opportunities, & educational supports.

**This is time sensitive.** Last month the Senate parliamentarian stated that the deadline for the current budget reconciliation process is September 30. This means that if voted on before September 30, this bill could pass with a simple majority – with fewer votes. Senator Cassidy claims to have 48-49 senators on-board. Senator McConnell has asked the CBO to produce a score quickly.

**The time to act is now!**

## **#ProtectOurCare**

# Day of Action Toolkit

## Spread the Word: No Cuts! No Caps! Save Medicaid!

Start now! Stand with millions of Americans in saying cuts and caps to Medicaid would be devastating to people with disabilities, seniors, women and children, and low-income Americans. Attend as many events as possible, flood social media, call your members of congress starting today!

### Friday September 22

- Join national call with Senator Casey's staff, CCD experts, and other advocates at 2pm EST
  - Call-in number: 1-719-457-0816. Guest code is 751-426#

### Monday September 25

- CCD National Call-in Day
  - **Everyone needs to participate**; spread the word and share the [Facebook event!](#)
- [Finance Committee hearing](#) at 2 pm EST
  - **If you are in DC** please attend in person: 215 Dirksen
    - Wear t-shirts, pins, stickers, make signs, etc. about protecting Medicaid
  - **If you are not in DC**: Starting around 11 am, this email address will be active for the public to submit testimony for the hearing on the Graham-Cassidy bill: [GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov](mailto:GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov). This is where groups and individuals can send letters, testimony, video links, photos, stories, etc. regarding the proposed legislation. Comments need to be submitted by Monday at 1 pm EST.
- **If you are in DC**, please join Senator Schumer's nighttime vigil
  - Location and time TBD

### Tuesday September 26

- **If you are in DC**, please attend press conference sponsored by Senator Casey including Sens. Wyden and Hassan and many others advocates
  - 11:30am EST on East Capitol Lawn

### Ongoing

- **Plan a State Rally**
  - Hold a rally in your state. Here is a list of key states:
    - **Top Priority**: Collins (Maine), Murkowski (Alaska), Capito (West VA), Portman (Ohio), McCain (Arizona), Cassidy (Louisiana)

- **High Priority:** Flake (Arizona), Gardner (Colorado), Moran (Kansas), Tillis and Burr (N. Carolina), Grassley and Ernst (Iowa), Young (Indiana), Rounds (S. Dakota), Hoeven (N. Dakota), Alexander and Corker (Tennessee)
- **Attend town hall meetings and events**
  - Through Monday Sept 25, your Senators and Representative are in their home state. You can find public appearances listed on their websites, at [TownHallProject.com](http://TownHallProject.com), and [here](#)
- **Make an appointment**
  - Schedule in person meetings with your Members of Congress to talk to them about the importance of Medicaid to you and the lives of people you care about.
  - *Not sure how to make an appointment?* Call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. A switchboard operator will connect you directly with the Senate office where you can schedule an appointment.
  - [Find your Members of Congress](#). All you need is your zip code.
- **If you can't meet in person, call**
  - Call multiple times throughout the day! You can call the Capitol switchboard at **202-224-3121** use the SEIU toll-free number **866-426-2631** to be connected directly with your Senator or Representative who is a target
  - *Not sure what to say?* You can make your own scripts or use ours:
    - My name is **[your name]**, and I live in **[your town]**. I'm **[calling]** to ask **[Senator Name]** to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill, or any other bills that would repeal the Affordable Care Act, cut Medicaid funding, and leave millions of people with no health insurance. Instead, work in a bipartisan manner to provide access to affordable, accessible health and long term services.
  - Also see [factsheet](#) about calling your elected officials made by ASAN
- **Share your story**
  - Tweet, Facebook, write letters, and send short videos to your Members of Congress with stories of how cuts to Medicaid will have severe impacts to people with disabilities, seniors, women and children, and low-income Americans. See a list of sample messages below, and [find your Members of Congress here](#).
  - Use the list of suggested tweets below, and tag your member of Congress:
    - **Good:** Start the tweet with their twitter name: a semi-private conversation. This directs the tweet to the person, but restricts the

number of people who see it. The person will get a notification that you've tweeted them, but only the people who follow both you and the person will see the tweet.

- *Example: @[mysenator]: cutting and capping Medicaid is dangerous for PWD. #SaveMedicaid*

- **Better:** Put their twitter name somewhere else in the tweet: A public statement. All your followers and all the person's followers will see the tweet, and the person will get a notification that they've been mentioned in your tweet.

- *Example: Cutting and capping Medicaid is dangerous for PWD. @[mysenator] #SaveMedicaid*

- **Change your Twitter and Facebook Images**

- Declare your support by changing your Twitter and Facebook cover images and frame in support of #SaveMedicaid. Download these customized images from <https://www.flickr.com/gp/aucd/m491v4>
- While logged in to Facebook:
  1. Go to the [profile picture frame feature](#)
  2. Click on the menu to the left of your profile picture
  3. Select the frame you would like to add
  4. Click **Use as Profile Picture** to save

## Hashtags

**Primary:**  
**#SaveMedicaid**

**Secondary:**  
**#ProtectOurCare**

## Sample Tweets & Talking Points

- Cutting and capping Medicaid is dangerous for PWD #SaveMedicaid #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy is worst bill on increasing premiums #KilltheBill @YourSenator #ProtectOurCare
- Premiums will increase. PWD will lose coverage. Vote no on #GrahamCassidy #SaveMedicaid
- Medicaid helps PWD live lives like everyone else #SaveMedicaid #ProtectOurCare
- We cannot go back to a time when people with pre-existing conditions were discriminated against. Vote no on #GrahamCassidy
- Estimated 32 million will lose coverage under #GrahamCassidy @YourSenator #VoteNO

- #GrahamCassidy ends Medicaid expansion providing coverage for 11 million people #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy per capita caps cuts coverage for children and people with disabilities #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy ends protections on pre-existing conditions and lifetime caps. #VoteNO @YourSenator #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy adds millions to uninsured, destabilizes marketplace @YourSenator
- Do not vote on #GrahamCassidy before getting a CBO score; committee markup @SenJohnMcCain
- #GrahamCassidy Would Reduce Federal Funding to States by \$215 Billion @Senator
- Per Capita Caps and Block Grants shift costs to states #SaveMedicaid. No to #GrahamCassidy
- #GrahamCassidy hurts women's health @lisamurkowski #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy hurts women's health @SenatorCollins #ProtectOurCare
- #GrahamCassidy harms people with disabilities @YourSenator <http://bit.ly/2yfJd1g> #VoteNo
- Stay strong. #SaveMedicaid and #VoteNo on #GrahamCassidy @SenatorCollins
- Stay strong. #SaveMedicaid and #VoteNo on #GrahamCassidy @lisamurkowski
- Stay strong. #SaveMedicaid and #VoteNo on #GrahamCassidy @SenJohnMcCain
- Caps and cuts to Medicaid will hurt those fighting #Opioid addiction @SenCapito
- Caps and cuts to Medicaid will hurt those fighting #Opioid addiction @SenRobPortman
- Graham-Cassidy will force states to scramble due to severe cuts. #ProtectOurCare Call your senator today
- Alaska will lose \$14 B in federal funding by 2036 under #GrahamCassidy. #VoteNO, @lisamurkowski
- West Virginia will lose \$27 billion in federal funding by 2036, under #GrahamCassidy. Vote no, @SenCapito
- @SenJohnMcCain, Arizona stands to lose \$133 B in federal funding by 2036. #VoteNO
- The rushed process of #GrahamCassidy is not regular order. #VoteNo, @SenJohnMcCain
- #GrahamCassidy was developed behind closed doors. Listen to your own words, @SenMajLdr
- @lisamurkowski has regularly urged that the Senate restore regular order. #GrahamCassidy breaks from normal order. #VoteNO
- @senorinhatch says the Senate is at its best w/regular order. #GrahamCassidy bill destroys that order
- @SenJohnHoeven says he wants to see analysis of bills before voting. #NoCBOScoreNoVote

See all [US Senators Twitter handles](#)

## Additional Resources

- Sign up to stay informed, with CCD. Email [cgrosso@aucd.org](mailto:cgrosso@aucd.org) to be added to the list.
- Fact Sheets and Talking Points for protecting Medicaid and the ACA: <http://www.c-c-d.org/rubriques.php?rubpage=42>

- Information on how Medicaid caps would impact people with disabilities, what it would mean in your state, and what you can do: [www.protectourmedicaid.org](http://www.protectourmedicaid.org)
- Kaiser Family Foundation Medicaid Page <http://kff.org/medicaid/>
- Avalere: *Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill Would Reduce Federal Funding to States by \$215 Billion* [http://avalere.com/expertise/life-sciences/insights/graham-cassidy-heller-johnson-bill-would-reduce-federal-funding-to-sta?utm\\_source=pressRelease&utm\\_medium=Twitter&utm\\_campaign=09-20-2017](http://avalere.com/expertise/life-sciences/insights/graham-cassidy-heller-johnson-bill-would-reduce-federal-funding-to-sta?utm_source=pressRelease&utm_medium=Twitter&utm_campaign=09-20-2017)
- CBPP: *Like Other ACA Repeal Bills, Cassidy-Graham Plan Would Add Millions to Uninsured, Destabilize Individual Market* – <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/like-other-aca-repeal-bills-cassidy-graham-plan-would-add-millions-to-uninsured>
- NHELP: *Top 10 Threats Under the Graham-Cassidy Bill* – <https://medicaid.publicrep.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/GrahamCassidyThreatsPWDs-9.19.17.pdf>
- Letter from LA Secretary of Health re Concerns of Graham-Cassidy Bill – [http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news\\_id=13072&id=17](http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=13072&id=17)
- DPCC: *A Deal So Terrible for American Families That Its Been Rejected Already by the Senate* – [http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news\\_id=13071&id=17](http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=13071&id=17)
- CAP: *coverage loss numbers* – <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/OB-1jxMXpci3lb0ZEtd3Fqbgz>

## Action Partners please retweet!

@AUCDnews

@ccd4pwd

@TheArcUS

@ACLU

@policyupdates

@BazonCenter

@autselfadvocacy

@LSA-DN

@afb1921

@civilrightsorg

(Search twitter for #SaveMedicaid to see a list of accounts tweeting about the topic.)

**#SAVEMEDICAID** because...

*No Cuts! No Caps!*

