



GO! BULLETIN

National News ACTION ALERT



URGENT ACTION ALERT: ADVOCACY NEEDED TO STOP MEDICAID CUTS AND HEALTH CARE REPEAL (again!)

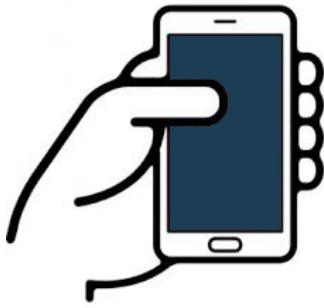
Remember when we helped defeat the American Health Care Act (AHCA) because it hurt people with disabilities?

Unfortunately, congressional leaders have dusted off the AHCA and added some truly terrible amendments for people with disabilities. The revised bill may have a vote in the House of Representatives in the next few days!

Parts of the AHCA that would hurt people with disabilities include:

- Weakening Medicaid with block grants or per capita caps. Click on this [link](#) to a previous edition of the National GO Bulletin for a review of block grants and per capita caps.
- Allowing insurance plans to discriminate against people with pre-existing conditions (including disabilities!)
- Allowing states to waive the "essential health benefits" that each insurance plan is supposed to have. These benefits include:
 - prescriptions
 - mental health services
 - substance abuse services
 - physical therapy
 - occupational therapy
 - speech therapy
 - preventive services
 - chronic disease management
 - pediatric services (including vision and dental).
- Taking away the extra 6% federal match for the Community First Choice (K Plan). This extra 6% match has brought in \$350 million in services to Oregonians with IDD and seniors and people with physical disabilities.

IT IS TIME TO TAKE ACTION!!!



Call your United States Legislators today
Dial 202-224-3121

Now is the time for ACTION
Every call matters!

Medicaid pays for IDD services (including the K Plan) and the Oregon Health Plan. People with disabilities rely on Medicaid to live, work and learn in their communities. Communities are best when everyone is supported to be a member. Without Medicaid, kids and adults with disabilities will struggle to be involved in community life. Don't let them take away health care and services for millions of people and replace it with a plan that CUTS Medicaid.

Things to tell your Congressman or woman:

- You oppose the AHCA
- The AHCA will hurt people with disabilities by:
 - Weakening Medicaid with per capita caps or block grants
 - Allowing insurance programs to discriminate against people with pre-existing conditions (including disabilities); and
 - Eliminating "essential health benefits" from insurance plan requirements.
 - Removing the extra 6% federal match from the Community First Choice Option
- Tell your story about how you use Medicaid to stay healthy and safe as a member of your community. Consider picking one of the issues below and telling your story:
 - Do you use IDD Services to go to work? Without that support, what would happen?
 - Do you use IDD Services to live in your community? What would your life be like without that support?
 - If health insurance could discriminate against you for having a pre-existing condition, what would happen to you without health care?
 - If you didn't get essential health benefits, what would your life be like?

As we balance state and federal advocacy efforts this year, it is important to outline what our advocacy focus is at each level of government. Let's take a look...

STATE VS. FEDERAL ADVOCACY POINTS

"Oregon is strongest when all people have supports they need to be community members. Use your voice to be sure state and federal systems protect services that support Oregonians with IDD to be community members."

STATE VS. FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

STATE ADVOCACY



Contact Oregon State Legislators to request the right services at the right time in the right amount including:



Case Management



Raise DSP Wages



Family Networks



Fairview Housing Trust

Harmful Eligibility Changes:



Counting Parental Income for Kids

2 → 3

Moving from 2 to 3 Functional Limitations

FEDERAL ADVOCACY



Contact United States Legislators to request Continuation of the Affordable Care Act, which includes:



Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage



Maintaining Essential Health Benefits



No Lifetime Benefits Cap

K Plan Funding for Medicaid Services such as:



Attendant Care



Vital Children & Family Services



Home Modifications

WHO ARE YOUR LEGISLATORS?

One State Senator

One State Representative



Two U.S. Senators

One U.S. Representative

To find your State Senator and State Representative, use the link below:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/findyourlegislator/leg-districts.html>

To contact your U.S. Senators or U.S. Representatives, call: 202-224-3121

Email:

oregoniddcoalition@gmail.com

Website:

www.oregoniddcoalition.org

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<https://www.facebook.com/OregonIDDCoalition/>