

December 19, 2005

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator,

The undersigned organizations are writing to voice our concern about provisions in the conference report on the reconciliation bill. On behalf of the 53 million Americans who rely on Medicaid for their health and long-term care supports and services, we urge the Conferees to reject the conference report. In particular, we strongly oppose the provisions of the conference report that would result in higher cost-sharing and fewer benefits for low-income Medicaid beneficiaries.

Congress now has the opportunity to take a stand for America's most vulnerable populations and reject the conference report because it harms low-income beneficiaries. The needs of millions of low-income children, seniors, people with disabilities and working families hang in the balance. We are depending on you to vote "no" on the conference report in order to keep health care accessible, affordable and comprehensive for Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

AFL-CIO
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families
Alliance for Children and Families
Alliance for Retired Americans
Alliance of Louisiana Developmental Centers Families & Friends
Alzheimer's Association
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association on Mental Retardation
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Diabetes Association
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Medical Student Association
American Network of Community Options and Resources
American Nurses Association
American Public Health Association
American Therapeutic Recreation Association
Americans for Democratic Action
Asian American Justice Center

Association for the Mentally Retarded at Agnews
Association of Academic Psychiatrists
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Beatrice State Development Center Family and Friends Association
B'nai B'rith International
Brain Injury Association
Center for Adolescent Health & the Law
Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly
Center for Public Policy Priorities
Center on Disability and Health
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy
Children's Defense Fund
Clearbrook Parents and Guardians Association
Coalition on Human Needs
Community Catalyst
Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project/CHAMP
Concerned Citizens For The Mentally Retarded
Consumers Union
Council for Exceptional Children
Council of Women's and Infants' Specialty Hospitals
Dever Association for the Retarded, Inc.
Disability Service Providers of America
District of Columbia Primary Care Association
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
Dixon Association For Retarded Citizens
Easter Seals
Epilepsy Foundation
Families USA
Gay Men's Health Crisis
General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church
Generations United
Gray Panthers California
Guttmacher Institute
Health and Disability Advocates in Chicago
HIV Medicine Association
Housing Works, Inc.
Hudson Health Plan
Human Rights Campaign
Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association
Institute for Reproductive Health Access
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

Learning Disabilities Association of America
Legal Action Center
March of Dimes
Massachusetts Coalition of Families and Advocates for the Retarded
Medicare Rights Center
Mental Retardation Association of Utah
Mount St. Joseph Association
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors
National Association of Health Advocacy Programs
National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of People with AIDS
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare
National Council on Aging
National Council on Independent Living
National Disability Rights Network
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Health Council
National Health Law Program
National Immigration Law Center
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
National Mental Health Association
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Respite Coalition
National Senior Citizens Law Center
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK, a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
Oregon Center for Public Policy
Parent Hospital Association, Sonoma Developmental Center

Parents & Friends of Hammond Developmental Center Association

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Washington Office

ProCare3

Project Inform

Protestants for the Common Good

Providence Health System

RESULTS

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

School Social Work Association of America

Service Employees International Union

Society for Adolescent Medicine

St. Mary's Residential Training School

State Associations of Addiction Services

The Arc of the United States

Tourette Syndrome Association

Treatment Access Expansion Project

UHCAN Ohio

United Cerebral Palsy

United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

USAction

U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association

Voices for America's Children

Voice of the Retarded

Welfare Law Center

The Well Project