



June 10, 2025

The Honorable Chris Coons
U.S. Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester
U.S. Senate
SD-B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**Christina Crooks
Bryan**

Vice President of
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Beebe Healthcare

David A. Tam,
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RN President

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Hospital**

Marlow Levy RN, MBA,
FACHE
President

**Delaware Healthcare
Association**

Brian W. Frazee
President & CEO

Dear Senator Coons and Senator Blunt Rochester,

On behalf of Delaware's hospitals, health systems, and related health care organizations, thank you for your ongoing support for policies that enable Delaware hospitals to better serve their patients and communities. We are writing to ask for your continued help to protect critical healthcare funding as the Senate considers the reconciliation bill.

DHA is deeply concerned that under the House-passed "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," as many as **53,000 Delawareans will lose their Medicaid coverage, roughly 32,000 will become [uninsured](#), and as much as \$4 billion in federal Medicaid funding for Delaware will be cut by 2034** according to [KFF](#).

The Medicaid program provides essential health benefits for low-income families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities and serves as a lifeline for more than 250,000 Delawareans. If enacted, this bill would mean nearly 20% of our friends and neighbors would lose Medicaid coverage. This translates into more uninsured individuals that are less likely to seek preventative care, more likely to delay needed care, worsening health conditions, and more trips to hospital emergency rooms. This will strain our healthcare workforce, impact wait times and negatively impact financial resources.

Medicaid cuts mean lower or in some cases no reimbursement for hospital and healthcare providers, straining critical resources. A recent Commonwealth Fund [analysis](#) found that for hospitals in Medicaid expansion states, these cuts could lead to a 19% decline in operating margins, on average, with safety-net hospitals disproportionately impacted. Our nonprofit hospitals will continue to care for every person that enters our doors 24/7/365 regardless of their ability to pay and we appreciate your partnership in advocating for maintaining critical healthcare programs that will help the patients and communities we serve.

In addition to the provisions that will cut Medicaid and lead to more uninsured, we also have concerns with proposals both in this bill and being proposed by the Trump Administration that would limit state directed payments to Medicare rates. Delaware was one of only a handful of states without a hospital provider assessment and with the leadership of then-State Senator McBride, we worked together on legislation (SB 13) to establish a provider assessment in Delaware that will bring millions of dollars to the state to support our Medicaid program. Ensuring the grandfathering in of State Directed Payments at Average Commercial for states



like Delaware that have submitted pre-prints to CMS for approval will be critical to the success of this program for the First State.

Finally, we are very concerned that President Trump's June 6th Presidential [Memoranda](#) includes language directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to take action to ensure Medicaid payments rates are not higher than Medicare. While the memo discussed such a change in the context of provider tax arrangements, we urge against this and any broader move to limit Medicaid to Medicare rates. Medicare and Medicaid both reimburse below the cost of care, but limiting Medicaid reimbursement to Medicare rates would deal a significant blow to hospital and healthcare providers and threaten access to care.

We appreciate your leadership in advocating to defend Medicaid and critical healthcare funding for Delaware. Thank you for your continued support for Delaware's hospitals, health systems and the patients and communities they serve. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Christina Bryan'.

Christina Crooks Bryan
Vice President of External Affairs
Delaware Healthcare Association

CC: Congresswoman Sarah McBride