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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

June 11, 2025

The Honorable Senator Bill Cassidy, MD, Chairman
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy:

As you are aware, last week the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the reconciliation bill that passed the House would cut federal health care programs by over \$1 trillion. Those cuts, along with ending the enhanced premium tax credits will lead to 16 million people losing their health insurance.

Researchers at the Yale School of Public Health and the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at the University of Pennsylvania recently found that these harmful health care policies would result in the unnecessary deaths of more than 51,000 people in our country each and every year.

Specifically, the Yale and University of Pennsylvania researchers found that:

- 11,300 Americans would die as a result of working people losing health coverage from Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA);
- 18,200 Americans would die as a result of low-income seniors losing subsidies that reduce their prescription drug costs;
- 13,000 Americans would die as a result of unsafe conditions in nursing homes; and
- 8,811 Americans would die as a result of the failure to extend tax credits for ACA coverage.

We are deeply concerned that if these policies were signed into law they would create a national health care emergency. Not only would millions of Americans lose their health insurance and tens of thousands of our constituents die as a result of the House-passed reconciliation bill, the cost of prescription drugs would go up for seniors, hospitals and community health centers in rural and underserved areas would close or shut down access to services that patients rely on, and

nursing homes would be made less safe. The proposed legislation would also make draconian cuts to women's health, restricting access to coverage of reproductive health care and threatening the viability of 200 Planned Parenthood clinics in communities across the country.

Regardless of your views on the merits of these policies, we hope you would agree with us that the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee has a solemn responsibility to hold extensive hearings on the impact these policies would have on the health and well-being of the American people and our entire health care system.

Failure to hold hearings and a markup on this reconciliation bill before it is considered on the Senate floor would be an abdication of our duty to the American people.

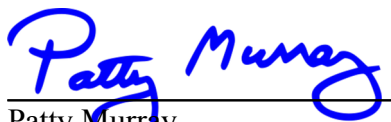
Therefore, we respectfully ask you to schedule a hearing on this subject as soon as possible with doctors, nurses, hospitals, community health centers, and patients. We also ask that you commit to marking up any policies within the Committee's jurisdiction before the reconciliation bill is considered by the full Senate.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

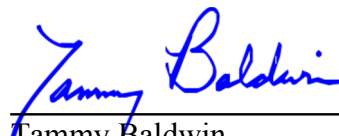
Sincerely,



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions



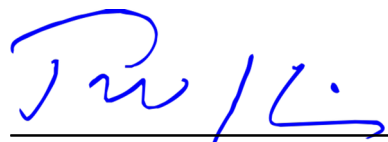
Patty Murray
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



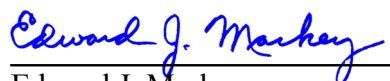
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