

March 2, 2026

Dear Maryland General Assembly Member,

We, the undersigned organizations, urge the Maryland General Assembly to protect and expand funding for the State's Medicaid program.

H.R. 1, passed by the federal government last summer, included the biggest-ever cut to Medicaid in our nation's history as well as changes to the program, such as work requirements, that are anticipated to cause about 130,000 Marylanders to lose their health care coverage. State health care officials estimate that these cuts and changes could amount to \$2.7 billion in lost federal dollars each year in Maryland, representing about 20% of the state's current Medicaid funding.ⁱ Significant additional state resources will also be needed to implement and administer work requirements and other program changes.ⁱⁱ

We are proud to be part of a network of statewide advocates that have been working closely with state health officials to come up with solutions to these challenges and work to ensure Marylanders who rely on these programs remain on the rolls. **Specifically, we urge you to protect full funding in this year's budget for the Department of Health's and the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange's administrative and IT needs that will be critical for the state to effectively implement work requirements for Medicaid with as minimal disruption to enrollees as possible. In addition, we request an additional \$8 million to fund 100 local health department navigator positions.** These navigators at the local level are crucial to helping Marylanders understand what steps they need to take to remain covered and remain in compliance with federal work requirements. Redeterminations will be required every six months for adults who receive Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act expansion. These adults are at risk of losing their Medicaid coverage simply due to increased red tape. Navigators would provide critical support to Marylanders who struggle to complete and submit the new paperwork requirements on their own.

We also ask that you protect Marylanders from any other Medicaid funding reductions. It is critical that Maryland continues to provide health coverage to its most financially and medically vulnerable residents. Medicaid helps ensure seniors can get the care they need without bankrupting their families in the process, with [5 in 8](#) nursing home residents covered by Medicaid. One in three children in Medicaid rely on Medicaid for a healthy start, including early screening and detection services, and management of conditions like asthma. Medicaid helps ensure that low-income families have coverage so that patients with conditions like cancer don't have to go without treatment.

When Marylanders lose their health coverage, they often are forced get their care in the emergency room, which is the most expensive place possible. The resulting uncompensated care drives up health insurance premiums for all of us. With costs rising for everyone – and with federal cuts projected to further restrict Maryland’s budget in future years – we simply cannot afford for Marylanders to lose their health care. The time to invest in our health care system is now.

Together, we urge you to protect full funding for the state’s Medicaid program and to allocate an additional \$8 million to support local public health department navigators who will help your constituents stay insured. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
AARP Maryland
Accessible Resources for Independence
Affiliated Sante Group
American Lung Association in Maryland
Ark Church
Ashley Addiction Treatment
Asian American Healthcare Center
Association of Community Services of Howard Co.
Awaken Recovery Foundation, Inc.
Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition
Baltimore Jewish Council
Be the Change Bmore
Behavioral Health System Baltimore
Bridges to Housing Stability Inc.
Caroline County Health Department
Catholic Charities
Caucus of African American Leaders
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Child Justice, Inc.
Clergy United for the transformation of Sand-town
Columbia Baptist Fellowship Community
Ecology Institute
Cornerstone Montgomery
Delaware-Maryland Synod of the ELCA
Easterseals Adult Day Services
Economic Action Maryland Fund
First Mount Calvary Baptist Church

Maryland Association of County Health Officers
Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative
Maryland Coalition of Families
Maryland Dental Action Coalition
Maryland Family Network
Maryland Latinos Unidos
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Maryland Managed Care Organization Association
Maryland Nonprofits
Maryland Nurses Association
Maryland Public Health Association
Maryland Rural Health Association
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service
Maryland-DC Society of Addiction Medicine
MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society
Mental Health Association of Maryland
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
Molly Perkins Hauck PhD, licensed psychologist
Montgomery County Commission on Aging
Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Inc.
Montgomery County Women’s Democratic Club
NAMI Maryland
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Maryland Chapter
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
On Our Own of Maryland, Inc.
Planned Parenthood of Maryland
Powell Recovery Center, inc.

Garrett County Democratic Central
Committee
Garrett County Health Department
Gary Mangum Empowerment Team
Greater Washington Society of Clinical
Social Work
Health Care for the Homeless
HealthCare Access Maryland
HealthPort
HeartSmart Foundation
High Note Consulting, LLC
Horizon Foundation
Indivisible Leadership in Action Maryland
Indivisible MoCoWoMen
LeadingAge Maryland
LeanToo Consulting, LLC
Legal Action Center
Maryland Association of Behavioral
Health Authorities (MABHA)

Primary Care Coalition
Progressive Maryland
Public Justice Center, Inc.
Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.
Sharon Baptist Church of Baltimore
Sisters Together And Reaching, Inc.
St. Mary's Outreach Center
The Coordinating Center
The Fund for Change
The Maryland Nurses Association
The Parent's Place of Maryland
The Village Maternal Holistic Wellness Center LLC
The Zanvyl and Isabelle Krieger Fund
The Mack Lewis Foundation
Trinity Maternal Wellness Incorporated
UFCW Local 1994 MCGEO
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

ⁱ <https://marylandmatters.org/2026/01/29/health-official-warns-that-future-medicaid-cuts-could-lead-to-2-7-billion-loss-in-federal-funding/#:~:text=Just%20under%20half%20of%20the,if%20Medicaid%20imposes%20work%20requirements>

ⁱⁱ https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Documents/OBBBA%20One-Pager_7.11.25.pdf