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Senators Casey, Wyden, Van Hollen, Duckworth and Hassan Join Hundreds of Disability, Civil Rights and Human Rights Advocates Tell the Senate: Stop Medicaid Cuts and Caps and Protect the Lives of People with Disabilities

June 6, 2017, Washington, DC—Today, Senators Casey, Wyden, Van Hollen, Duckworth and Hassan joined hundreds of advocates, families and providers from across the country to demand that the Senate stop the Medicaid cuts and caps that are currently included in the American Health Care Act (AHCA). In addition to the rally in Washington, DC, there were coordinated events and actions that took place across the country. For a complete list, go to <https://medicaid.publicrep.org/feature/june-6th-actions/>.

Ten million people with disabilities rely on Medicaid for the critical services that help them live, work, attend school and participate in their communities. The AHCA, if passed, will cut more than \$800 billion from Medicaid over the next decade. The lives of people with disabilities relying on home and community based services will be decimated by the AHCA's proposed Medicaid cuts and "per capita caps."

According to Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), "Medicaid cuts will harm children, families, people with disabilities, veterans, and aging Americans. It is wrong to cut the essential services so that the rich can receive a massive tax cut. I will work to keep Medicaid whole and keep services flowing."

Cindy Jennings of Lititz, PA said, "My son Matthew is why I'm here, fighting against cuts to Medicaid. Matthew and I have a lot in common—we both work and are active in our community. Our life, which is probably a lot like yours, is possible because of Medicaid. Matthew's disabilities require supports that give him dignity and independence and, without his Medicaid-funded services, I couldn't work and provide for our family. Medicaid

makes all the difference for our family and thousands of families across the country and I won't let Congress take it and all the progress Matthew has made away."

According to Kim Musheno, Chair of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, the largest national coalition of disability organization in the country, "Today's rallies and actions across the country send a clear message to Congress that the entire disability community and our allies are united in opposition to Medicaid cuts and caps. The lives of millions of people with disabilities and their families literally depend on Medicaid. Billions of dollars in cuts to Medicaid would decimate our country's community support system and put people's lives at risk."

The Save Medicaid activities that occurred around the country were sponsored by the following organizations:

American Association on Health & Disability

American Association of People with Disabilities

American Civil Liberties Union

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

American Network of Community Options and Resources

Association of People Supporting Employment First

Association on University Centers on Disabilities

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Brain Injury Association of America

Center for American Progress

Center for Law and Social Policy

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Center for Popular Democracy

Center for Public Representation

Chronic Illness and Disability Partnership

Collaboration to Promote Self Determination

Community Catalyst

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

Council for Exceptional Children

Disability Action for America

Human Rights Campaign

Justice in Aging

LeadingAge

Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

Lutheran Services in America Disability Network

Medicare Rights Center

National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Disability Rights Network

National Down Syndrome Congress

National Health Law Program

National Council on Independent Living

RESULTS: The Power to End Poverty

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Service Employees International Union

The Arc of the United States

United Cerebral Palsy

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