



Easter Seals

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Dear Representative,

Easter Seals urges you to cosponsor H.R. 5613, the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008, legislation to provide relief from a series of Medicaid regulations that we believe will reduce the ability of this important program to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities. Access to appropriate and high quality health care services is essential for people with disabilities to live, learn, work and play in their communities.

Medicaid is central to the provision of the nation's health care and long term services because it is uniquely constructed to meet the needs of those with disabilities of all ages. Over the last year, the Administration has proposed a series of Medicaid regulations that, if allowed to go into effect, would have an adverse impact on beneficiaries, providers, states and localities. Legislation has been passed to block the implementation of regulatory changes in school-based and rehabilitation services. We strongly support the extension of these moratoria as well as the passage of new moratoria to address other recent Administration actions that risk limiting access to good health care for some of the most vulnerable – children, people with disabilities and children in foster care. For example, the continued availability of target case management services for those who are involved with several aspects of the Medicaid program will allow the best utilization of limited resources.

We look forward to working with you as the legislative process moves forward. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Beh Neas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katherine Beh Neas
Vice President, Government Relations