



Congressman Pedro R. Pierluisi
Statement as Delivered
H.R. 5362, *the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act of 2012*
May 10, 2012

Mr./Madame Speaker:

I strongly oppose the provision in this legislation that would single out the Medicaid programs in the U.S. territories for a 65 percent cut, even though the territories are already treated in a profoundly unequal manner under this program. I am joined in my opposition to this cut by the Republican Governor of Puerto Rico, Luis Fortuño, who knows discrimination when he sees it.

And I'd like to remind the gentlemen from Wisconsin that, in the case of the territories, we are talking about an actual cut. We are not talking about a reduction in the growth of our funding, because we have a cap to live with.

Just as we fought to obtain the funding that the Republicans now seek to repeal, we will fight alongside our allies in the White House, the Senate and this chamber to retain this funding. This is a fight we intend to win.

I yield back the balance of my time.