

State Partner – Protect Medicaid Call Script Template

Hello.

My name is [NAME] and I live in [Town/City], [State].

I am calling on behalf of [Organization Name] and our members because we know that Congressional leaders are currently negotiating a budget resolution, and we're worried about reports of deep cuts to Medicaid and other programs [like] [add additional priorities for your organization – ACA subsidies, SNAP, etc.] that are meant to offset big tax breaks for the wealthy.

We at [Organization Name] urge you to protect Medicaid and other health care programs that keep people healthy in the budget reconciliation process.

Medicaid, or what we call [your state Medicaid program name] in [State Name], allows children, seniors, people with disabilities, pregnant people, and adults with low incomes to get the health care they need. In [State], Medicaid is a vital connection to care for [number of people enrolled in Medicaid in your state] people, (FOR HOUSE DISTRICTS ONLY) including around [number of people enrolled in Medicaid in this House district] in District [District Number].

Nationally it provides health coverage for 36.8 million children, 60% of seniors in nursing homes, and 41% of births. It is a consistently popular program that plays a significant role in local and state economies by keeping rural hospitals open, supporting job growth, and ultimately saving taxpayer dollars.

Will [Representative OR Senator] [Last Name] vote “no” on cuts to Medicaid [and] [additional priorities for your organization] to make sure your constituents can stay healthy and get the care they need, when they need it?

- **[IF NO ANSWER/ANSWERING MACHINE]:** Provide your contact phone number and ask them to call you back as soon as possible.
- **[IF YES]:** Thank them for their support and offer to provide them with factsheets and/or other materials they can use to help educate other members about the importance of Medicaid.

Thank you for your support for Medicaid and the thousands of people across our state who rely on this coverage to access care. I appreciate you taking this call and any actions you can take to protect vital health care programs from cuts going forward.

- **[IF NOT SURE/NONCOMMITAL]** Ask them what factors they are considering when thinking about the budget reconciliation process? What are their priorities? When do they expect to make a decision about whether or not they will vote to protect Medicaid? Is there additional information/resources they need to make a commitment? **If they ask for additional resources, follow up quickly with the information they request.**

I appreciate your time and consideration. Thank you for taking this call and for any actions you can take to protect vital health care programs from cuts. I will follow up with your office to check on the status of this request. **[Be sure to follow up with them]**

- **[IF NO]:** Ask them for specifics about how they reached their decision. Take notes. This information can be used later for accountability actions.

I am disappointed to learn of your decision and scared for the thousands of people in our state who stand to lose coverage if these cuts are implemented. These cuts are cruel and will have devastating consequences for the individuals and families who need care most. A vote in favor of them is not a vote for your constituents.