

June 13, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader, U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: Preserve Patients' Access to Nurses Through Medicaid

Dear Leader Thune and Leader Schumer:

The American Nurses Association (ANA) is writing to share its concerns about the impact of policy changes to the Medicaid program contained in the House Energy and Commerce Committee's title of the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (H.R. 1). Collectively, these policy changes will have a detrimental effect on our nation's most vulnerable patients and the nursing workforce they rely on for critical health care services.

The House-passed changes to Medicaid financing on health care facilities will have an adverse impact on our nation's nursing workforce, which is already in crisis. Hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities facing financial strain could be forced to reduce work hours, freeze hiring, or close altogether. Often, it is the nurses who are left to shoulder the full patient care burden, facing increased workloads and less time to devote to each patient due to higher patient volume. This only serves to further exacerbate existing nursing workforce challenges that lead to lower job satisfaction, nurse burnout and attrition, and worse patient outcomes.

Medicaid reductions will also trigger an increased financial burden on nurses and their patients. As a consequence of these policy changes, states may target reductions in reimbursement rates for services—affecting advanced practice registered nurses (APRN), such as nurse practitioners (NPs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), certified nurse midwives (CNMs), and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), most of which already face reimbursement rates that do not reflect the high-quality clinical care APRNs provide. With respect to patients who lose their Medicaid coverage, APRNs will likely see sicker patients that are more likely to delay or forego care over financial concerns. These patients will still need care, especially if individual health conditions worsen. This will result in APRNs faced with greater uncompensated care costs that they simply cannot absorb.

America's nursing workforce is on the front lines of patient care in every health care delivery setting and understands the devastating impact that policy changes resulting in reduced Medicaid funding and coverage will have on millions of patients and communities across the United States. ANA has significant concerns about proposed policy changes in H.R. 1 that are projected to result in Medicaid coverage losses for almost 8 million vulnerable individuals by 2034, [according to the Congressional Budget Office](#) (CBO). These proposals collectively will result in delayed care, worse health outcomes for patients, and higher health care costs in the long run.

ANA is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation's 5 million registered nurses (RNs), through its constituent and state nurses' associations, organizational affiliates, and

individual members. RNs serve in multiple direct care, care coordination, and administrative leadership roles, across the full spectrum of health care settings. RNs provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. ANA members also include those practicing in the four APRN roles: NPs, CNSs, CNMs, and CRNAs. ANA is dedicated to partnering with health care consumers to improve practices, policies, delivery models, outcomes, and access across the health care continuum.

In closing, ANA encourages the U.S. Senate to reject House-passed modifications to the Medicaid program that will affect patients and nurses across the country, and result in potential economic fallout in these communities. Please contact Tim Nanof, ANA's Executive Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs, at (301) 628-5081 or Tim.Nanof@ana.org with any questions.

Sincerely,



Bradley Goettl, DNP, DHA, RN, FAAN, FACHE
Chief Nursing Officer

cc: Senate Finance Committee

Senate HELP Committee

Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, ANA President

Angela Beddoe, ANA Chief Executive Officer

Tim Nanof, ANA Executive Vice President, Policy & Government Affairs