

40 Patient Organizations Urge States to Adopt Options to Delay Medicaid Work Reporting Requirements and Prevent Massive Coverage Losses

Washington, D.C. — (November 23, 2026) — On Friday, November 13, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that states could opt into a "hold harmless" period and suspend coverage terminations or denials for people who do not meet the Medicaid work reporting requirements under Public Law 119-21 (H.R. 1) through June 30, 2027. In response, 40 non-profit, non-partisan patient organizations issued the following statement:

"Our organizations appreciate CMS's announcement that states can opt into a 'hold harmless' period to suspend coverage terminations or denials related to Medicaid work reporting requirements through June 30, 2027. As we expressed in our statement last week, our organizations have grave concerns that states do not have the clarity or time they need to implement this policy without dramatic and inappropriate coverage losses for the patients we represent. We urge every state to take up this option.

“H.R. 1 also included an option for states to apply for good faith waivers to delay implementation of work reporting requirements for up to two years, and we urge all states to request these as well. State leaders should pursue every possible avenue to protect coverage of patients with serious and chronic health conditions.

“While this announcement is an important first step, there is much more that lawmakers can and should do to avoid the massive coverage losses coming as a result of H.R. 1. Our organizations will continue to call on Congress to enact a longer delay of work reporting requirements that applies to all states and ultimately reverse this and other policies that push people out of coverage.”

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AiArthritis
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Kidney Fund
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
Arthritis Foundation
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Blood Cancer United
Cancer Nation
Cancer Support Community
CancerCare
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
Epilepsy Foundation
Family Voices National
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Legal Action Center
Lutheran Services in America
March of Dimes
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Bleeding Disorders Foundation
National Health Council
National Kidney Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
Parkinson's Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
RARE Foundation
Sickle Cell Disease Association of America
Susan G. Komen
The AIDS Institute
The Coalition for Hemophilia B
ZERO Prostate Cancer