

Children at Risk

An Open Letter concerning Children at Risk

Re: 113th US Congress Senate Bill 2694. <https://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2694>

Thank you. Throughout the Nation, the organizations dedicated to children report that even as high as 70% in most counties of our Nation, children must have Medicaid as their only source of payment for medical services. <http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/state-of-americas-children/> Congress realized, as noted in the Affordable Care Act, that the States of our Union do not have the budgets or abilities to continue with the Medicaid system without National support. Recognizing this need and the promise of equal protection for every citizen, both old and young, in 2010 Congress recognized that Children's medical services were poorly and unequally reimbursed, merely 40% or even less than Medicare reimbursements (the principal reimbursement for seniors). Such explained why our most innocent citizens of our Nation, children, have difficulty finding doctors. Now, even those who find a doctor who determined to provide children's medical care, the remarkably low reimbursement for medical services continue to cause these stalwarts to increasingly close their doors.

In 2010, with 70% of the nation's children in need, Congress acted and promised children and their doctors the Nation would align the reimbursements from Medicaid (children) to equal to the reimbursements from Medicare (Senior Adults). In 2010 Congress intended to induce physicians providing medical care for Children, to fully open their services to Children with Medicaid.

Here at the pediatric center we remain steadfast determined to provide care to every child without regard to their form of payment, and are committed never to turn away any patient for reasons of unfortunate medical insurance. As a result our practice sees many wonderful children born into circumstances where Medicaid is their only form of payment. We believe that medicine and nursing are callings, not just business, and seek to continue to provide care for all children without risking business failure.

Will our Nation keep its promise of 2010 To do so United States Senator Brown (OH), Sen. Murray, [WA], Rockefeller, and Sen. Landrieu [LA], together introduced S 2694 (The Ensuring Access to Primary care for Women and Children Act). As this Bill rests in the Senate Finance Committee, the act necessary for Congress to keep its promise. The Bill S-2694 merely renews the status-quo, and continues to keep the promise made to children and their doctors. This is not a Medicaid Expansion Bill.

By enacting S2694 into law, The Nation will keep its promise to children and avoid causing the following hardships:

1. Many disadvantaged (perhaps most if not 70% in some US Counties) may lose their medical home.
2. Physicians who trusted and were induced to believe and rely detrimentally in this promise may lose their practices, resulting in community financial hardship as employees are laid-off.
3. Cynicism increases among those watching when future promises are made to children and their doctors. This breach in trust may be difficult to restore.
4. Increased children will flow to emergency departments and drug-store clinics further eroding the stability of children's medical home for care, at great social and economic costs, now and in the future.

The gravity of increasing poverty by decreasing health care services for children lays the path for social instability. Nearly all the Founding Patriots of our Nation understood how this defending the weak protected liberty when they penned their views about private virtue. George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and nearly all the Patriots familiar to our sixth graders wrote extensively about virtue. [See: A Loss of Private Virtue Authority Fills Every Void, December 27th, 2012, by M.G. Anderson] <http://themadisonforum.com/2012/12/in-re-a-loss-of-private-virtue-authority-fills-every-void/>

From one of the remarkable leaders and nation-builders of history we may read from the ancient Hebrew book of Devarim 15:4, as our precedent that a good government should be concerned about the community's obligation to the poor, especially children. <https://www.bible.com/bible/130/deu.15.4.ojb>

The Founding Patriots of our Nation expressed that community virtues, presumably caring for women and children, are essential to maintain our liberty. The Patriots understood the unrest in France, England, Czarist Russia, when nations forsake their duties to their weakest citizens, notably children. <http://themadisonforum.com/2012/12/in-re-a-loss-of-private-virtue-authority-fills-every-void/>

Please, if all who read may be motivated to act. <http://www.contactingthecongress.org/>

Please write or otherwise share your concern why our Nation should not go back on its promises from 2010 to our children. All that is now presented in US Senate is Bill 2694 needs the full and highest priority of support from all who recognize the value of children having access to their reliable, steady, and familiar medical care. If this effort fails, as a Nation we all fail to some degree. I regret that I do not have a more cheerful message to share; however, with our collective efforts we may have the best possibilities seeing our future generation succeed and grow strong with less cynicism. https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=cynicism%20in%20America