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**In Letter to Congress, MHPA Urges Against Policies that Create Significant Coverage Loss and Barriers to Care**

(WASHINGTON, DC) – MHPA amplified the critical importance of the Medicaid program and urged Senate leaders against policies that create significant coverage loss and strain on state health systems.

In a letter to Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD), Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Finance Committee Chair Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), MHPA detailed concerns with certain provisions in the House-passed budget reconciliation bill. While MHPA supports the inclusion of policies that eliminate redundancies in the program, the Association urged caution against specific provisions that can increase churn, create additional barriers to coverage, disincentivize essential care, hamstringing states in financing the program, and disrupt the broader health care system.

The letter states, “Members across the United States Congress and the Administration have pledged to protect quality Medicaid coverage for those who need it; as MCOs, we share in that commitment. Unfortunately, the House budget reconciliation bill challenges that premise and creates significant barriers for states, health plans, and providers to uphold that charge to the fullest.”

MHPA expressed concern that policies in the House budget reconciliation bill create significant barriers for states, health plans, and providers, ultimately making it harder for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive and maintain coverage. These policies in isolation can create challenges but could be even more detrimental in tandem. Specifically, MHPA highlighted concerns with:

- Mandatory, nationwide community engagement requirements;
- Mandatory, nationwide Medicaid cost-sharing;
- Increased Medicaid eligibility checks;
- Reduced retroactive coverage windows; and
- Provider tax freeze and state-directed payments cap.

Understanding the importance of improving sustainability in the Medicaid program, MHPA pledged to work with the Senate on policy that will ensure accountability and efficiency, so the program can best support the millions of Americans who rely on it for life saving coverage and care.

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**About MHPA**

Founded in 1995, Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) is the only national association that solely represents the interests of the Medicaid managed care industry. Through its advocacy and research work, MHPA supports innovative policy solutions that enhance the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective, and quality health care for Medicaid enrollees. MHPA works on behalf of its more than 160-member health plans which serve nearly 52 million Medicaid enrollees in 40 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. MHPA's members include for-profit and non-profit national, regional, and single-state health plans that compete in the Medicaid market. Visit [mhpa.org](https://www.mhpa.org) for more information.