

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

Senator Chuck Schumer Minority Leader, U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

June 16th, 2025

Dear Majority Leader Thune and Minority Leader Schumer,

As the CEO of the Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention (AWHP), I am writing to express my sincere disappointment with and opposition to the provisions included H.R.1, the reconciliation bill passed by the House on May 22nd, that would significantly undermine Medicaid coverage. As an organization focused on women's preventive health, AWHP **implores you to reject these impending cuts to Medicaid and protect the women and children across the country that rely on this funding for their health and wellness.**

Medicaid is a critical lifeline for people in rural, underserved areas, and cuts to this program threaten their ability to access essential health care services. As you review this bill, I urge you to consider the following facts:

- Of the 24 million women currently enrolled in Medicaid, 56% are in their reproductive years while over 50% are women of color, meaning that cuts would disproportionately impact these women.
- As a cornerstone of women's health, Medicaid plays a vital role in ensuring access to critical services including cancer and chronic disease screenings, maternal care, and family planning.
- A <u>recent survey</u> by AWHP found that women enrolled in Medicaid are more than 2x as likely to have a primary care provider, more than 2x as likely to have received an annual physical or well woman visit in the past 12 months, and more likely to receive important preventive services such as such as routine bloodwork, cancer screenings, and osteoporosis screenings than uninsured women. These results strongly underscore the importance of Medicaid for women's health.
- With Medicaid covering nearly <u>half of all births in rural areas</u>, funding cuts could force <u>rural</u>
 <u>health facilities to close</u> and risk leaving residents without access to care.

As such, AWHP respectfully encourages you to prioritize and invest in the Medicaid program to strengthen the country's healthcare infrastructure. If the cuts to the Medicaid program pass, millions of these individuals would risk losing access to the high-quality, affordable healthcare that they critically need.

We urge you to reject the harmful Medicaid provisions in the House reconciliation bill — a decision that would make a significant impact on the health of women and children nationwide.

We appreciate your attention to this important issue.

Respectfully,
Millicent Gorham
CEO, Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention (AWHP)

