



New Hampshire State House of Representatives  
Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee  
1 Granite Place  
Concord, NH 03301

December 2, 2025

Dear members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee,

As the CEO of the Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention (AWHP), I am writing to express my sincere disappointment with the decision to end Medicaid coverage of obesity management medications when prescribed solely for weight loss. **I implore you to reconsider this harmful decision, and to protect New Hampshire Medicaid beneficiaries who rely on this coverage to access needed obesity care.**

As you consider policies related to obesity care coverage, I encourage you to think of obesity as a serious chronic disease with a significant impact on women across New Hampshire. Here's why:

- Approximately [30% of women in New Hampshire are affected by obesity, disproportionately impacting](#) women of color.
- **Over half (54%)** of New Hampshire Medicaid enrollees **are women**.
- Obesity is [associated with over 200 health complications](#), including many that specifically affect women, such as [breast and ovarian cancers](#) and [fertility challenges](#).
- Across the country, women with obesity are more likely to face **harmful social stigma and discrimination—including [earning up to 9% less](#)** than women not living with obesity.

Improved access to comprehensive obesity care, which includes medications, is key to addressing the obesity epidemic across the U.S., and especially in New Hampshire. When obesity is left untreated, it can lead to higher rates of other chronic diseases, like diabetes, heart disease and cancer, requiring more costly treatment and possible hospitalization for patients and putting an even greater strain on New Hampshire's Medicaid program. In fact, [recent data](#) shows that **improved access to some obesity medications reduces future medical costs** that result from the health complications linked to the disease.

While we understand that New Hampshire must make difficult decisions in a time of rising healthcare costs, we firmly believe that the decision to eliminate Medicaid coverage of obesity management medications for weight loss is shortsighted, costing the state more in the long run and posing serious health risks to the state's most vulnerable residents. To put it simply, **New Hampshire is going to pay either way—either by paying to treat the chronic disease now or by paying for the consequences later.**

There is no other chronic disease that requires this level of justification to cover evidence-based care. Patients deserve better. Obesity care should be covered just like care for any other chronic disease—it's only fair. As such, **AWHP respectfully urges you to reinstate Medicaid coverage of obesity management medications for weight loss before it ends on January 1, 2026.**

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

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