

February 17, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
568 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: 2025 Budget Reconciliation and Potential Impacts on Healthcare

Dear Speaker Johnson:

On behalf of our member hospitals and health systems, the Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) appreciates the opportunity to express our deep concern regarding proposed changes to the Medicaid program and the significant consequences that large funding cuts for healthcare services would have on all Louisianians.

As Congress continues to negotiate budget reconciliation legislation, lawmakers have discussed a range of concerning proposals, including per capita caps, reductions in directed payment programs, and reduced federal matching payments in the Medicaid program. If enacted, these proposals could reduce access to care and increase barriers to providing health coverage for approximately 1.6 million residents, including pregnant women, children, elderly, disabled, and working adults.

In addition, such proposals would place immense financial pressure on healthcare providers across the state, particularly small and rural hospitals that often serve as their communities' primary healthcare providers and leading employers. Given that hospitals directly and indirectly support more than 308,000 jobs in Louisiana, the broader economic repercussions would be substantial.

Please urge your colleagues to thoroughly consider the consequences of any Medicaid proposals that could jeopardize coverage for hundreds of thousands in Louisiana or restrict patients' access to essential services in an effort to fund unrelated budgetary items outside of healthcare.

Louisiana hospitals stand ready to serve as a resource as these discussions continue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of my staff. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Salles
President & CEO