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NAMD Supports Redetermination Certainty in FY 2023 Omnibus Release

Congress provides clear roadmap for Medicaid agencies to ensure better coverage outcomes

(WASHINGTON, D.C., DECEMBER 20, 2022) – Congress' release of [draft Consolidated language](#) includes critical policy that provides Medicaid agencies with certainty on the timing, resources, and rules for winding down the Medicaid continuous enrollment requirement and initiating Medicaid redeterminations for millions of Americans.

In clearly laying out the April 1, 2023 start date for this work and phasing down current enhanced federal dollars, Congress is directly responding to requests made by Medicaid Directors in [November 2022](#) and [earlier](#) in the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Medicaid agencies across the nation have worked tirelessly in the face of uncertainty to prepare for redetermining people on the program. With the policies proposed by Congress, Medicaid agencies can now have confidence in their plans and ensure that the right coverage outcomes occur and that individuals maintain access to health coverage through Medicaid or through other coverage sources.

"We are appreciative that Congress so clearly heard the need from Medicaid Directors for certainty on the future of the continuous coverage requirement. With health insurance coverage for millions of Americans at stake, this certainty will allow states to better manage what is an unprecedented number of redeterminations for each Medicaid program," said Allison Taylor, NAMD Board President and Indiana Medicaid Director. "If enacted, this legislation gives us the tools we need to plan with confidence and solidify messages to our members, their families, and their caregivers so that everyone knows what to expect as this work starts."

Currently, more than 90 million Americans use Medicaid across the U.S. and its territories to access the health care they need. That is the largest number of Medicaid members in the history of the program. Since 2020, every Medicaid agency has implemented a continuous enrollment policy ensuring that no member would lose their health insurance during the national health emergency. Potential Medicaid coverage losses as redeterminations begin have ranged from 5 million to 19 million, though many of these people will be eligible for or already on other coverage.

"While we anticipate Medicaid coverage losses as the redetermination process unfolds, the certainty provided by Congress gives us all greater opportunities to limit unwarranted coverage loss and make sure coverage transitions to the Marketplace, Medicare, or employer-sponsored insurance are successful," Taylor said.

Congress is also proposing to gradually phase down extra federal resources made available to Medicaid agencies over the course of 2023 rather than having these resources fall away all at once. This was an important ask by Medicaid Directors to ensure Medicaid agencies have the supports they need to staff

core agency functions and complete more robust outreach to current Medicaid members throughout the redetermination period.

The omnibus language includes several other notable Medicaid policies, including more stable federal funding for the U.S. territories' Medicaid programs, extending funding by two years for the Children's Health Insurance Program, and making permanent the option for one year of postpartum coverage. NAMD looks forward to Congress enacting this legislation and working with our federal partners on its successful implementation.

About the National Association of Medicaid Directors

The National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD) is a bipartisan, nonprofit, professional organization representing leaders of state Medicaid agencies across the country. NAMD supports Medicaid Directors in administering the program in cost-effective, efficient and visionary ways that enable the over 90 million Americans served by Medicaid to achieve their best health and to thrive in their communities. NAMD does this by offering programs for Medicaid Directors, elevating the consensus issues of Directors in the federal policy process, and serving as the trusted source for data and information about Directors. Learn more at <http://www.medicaidirectors.org> and follow NAMD on Twitter [@statemedicaid](https://twitter.com/statemedicaid).