

**Capitol Hill Telephone Call Talking Points**  
**Advocating for Medicaid support and funding**  
**Emphasizing the Value of Medicaid's programs and services**

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**When Calling the Office:**

**Receptionist or person answering the phone:**

Hi, my name is [YOUR NAME], and I'm a constituent of Representative/Senator [NAME], living in [CITY/STATE], ZIP code [#####]. **I'm calling to express my strong opposition to proposed cuts to the Medicaid program, especially as they impact older people.** Could I please speak to the staff member who works on health policy?

**If no one is available:**

*That's okay—I'd like to leave a message. My name is [YOUR NAME], and I called on [DATE] at [TIME]. My phone number is [PHONE NUMBER]. I'm asking for a call back to discuss the importance of Medicaid funding, particularly its role in supporting older people. If possible, could you also share the appropriate staffer's email address so I can follow up directly?*

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**When Speaking with a Health Policy Staff Member:**

*Hi [STAFFER'S NAME], thank you for speaking with me. My name is [YOUR NAME], and I live in [CITY/STATE], ZIP code [#####], in Representative/Senator [NAME]'s district. **I'm calling to express my strong opposition to proposed cuts to the Medicaid program, especially as they impact older people.** I'm a researcher in the field of [YOUR AREA OF RESEARCH].*

*(Optional:) I'm also a [TITLE] at [UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTION].*

*How are you today?*

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**I urge [MEMBER NAME] to vote against the proposed budget reconciliation bill that would result in the loss of Medicaid coverage for many people in my community, notably for older people who rely on the program.** The Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the bill would reduce federal Medicaid spending by \$793 billion and that the Medicaid provisions would increase the number of uninsured people by 7.8 million.

**Why Medicaid matters:**

As you know, Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that helps cover medical costs for some people with limited income and resources. The federal government has general rules that all state Medicaid programs must follow, but each state runs its own program. Medicaid plays a vital role in providing long-term care services for older people, including nursing home care and home and community-based services. More than 17 million Americans age 50 and older rely on Medicaid as a critical safety net to stay in their homes, manage chronic conditions, and afford long-term care. The proposed cuts in health coverage, food, and other programs in the bill will worsen health outcomes and increase isolation and the cost of care for older people.

My own research focuses on [BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR RESEARCH], which contributes to a better understanding of how we can extend both **lifespan** and **healthspan**—ensuring more of us live not just longer, but better lives as we age.

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### **Our Request:**

**Again, I urge [MEMBER NAME] to oppose cuts and changes to the Medicaid program outlined in the reconciliation bill that would increase the number of uninsured people and lead to decreased health outcomes in beneficiaries, especially older people. I highly urge [MEMBER NAME] to continue to fund the Medicaid program.**

This investment sustains the essential programs and services that keep older Americans healthy, strengthens the economy, and advances evidence-based health and aging programs that address chronic diseases.

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### **Closing:**

Thank you for your time and your commitment to ensure that funding and supporting the Medicaid program remains a priority. I'd be happy to follow up with more details or materials—just let me know what would be most helpful.

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