



March 7, 2017

Dear Representative:

Please oppose the proposal contained in the American Health Care Act (AHCA) to cap federal funding for Medicaid.

Easterseals is a leading non-profit organization that helps individuals with disabilities access their community and reach their potential by providing Medicaid-funded and other essential services and supports through our national network of 75 affiliates.

Easterseals is greatly concerned that AHCA removes the federal funding guarantee that currently exists in Medicaid. People with disabilities rely on Medicaid-funded services such as attendant care, adult day and home health services to remain in their homes and communities and live productive lives. Thousands of individuals with disabilities across the country are on wait lists to receive these critical Medicaid waiver services. Restricting Medicaid resources by capping the federal amount available to states and including further reductions based on aggregate Medicaid expenditures will further limit access to services.

In addition, **Easterseals opposes the AHCA repeal of the Community First Choice program** that provides increased Medicaid federal matching funds to states for providing care attendants and supports to people with disabilities who would otherwise need to be institutionalized.

Thank you for your consideration of Easterseals' position on these Medicaid-related provisions.

Sincerely,

Katy Beh Neas
Executive Vice President, Government Relations