

# Protecting Medicaid: What can you do?

INFORMATION TO HELP YOU ADVOCATE TO GA CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

*Advocating to Georgia's representatives is important for people with disabilities and their families. Georgia representatives can help protect essential healthcare services that help people with disabilities live lives they choose. Medicaid funds needed support, including healthcare, personal assistance, and community-based services, to nearly 2 million Georgians, including children, older adults, and people with disabilities. Federal cuts to Medicaid would make services worse for people with disabilities. They would face institutionalization, financial hardship, and preventable health crises without it. Advocating to Congressional Representatives can influence policies and safeguard Medicaid funding.*

This document provides:



- *Information about why you should advocate to Georgia's congressional representatives to block Medicaid Cuts*
- *Information about GA Representatives you can contact*
- *Information about why and how you should engage with GA Representatives to advocate to save Medicaid*

# Advocacy Priorities to Share with Georgia's Congressional Representatives

*By advocating against Medicaid cuts, people with disabilities and their families can help protect needed services, economic stability, and their well-being.*



**Access to Essential Long-Term Healthcare & Services** Medicaid provides critical healthcare, personal assistance, and community-based services for approximately 2 million people in Georgia, including veterans, older adults with dementia, foster children, low-income families, caregivers, people with mental health support needs, and thousands of people with disabilities. Cuts would reduce access to necessary support like home care, community support, therapy, and medical treatments, essential for maintaining health and independence.



**Independence & Community Inclusion** Medicaid-funded programs like Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) enable more than 40,000 people in Georgia to live independently, work, and participate in their communities instead of being forced into institutional settings. Cuts would jeopardize their autonomy, opportunities to contribute to society, and overall quality of life.



**Economic Security for Families** Many families rely on Medicaid to cover costly disability-related care. Research shows that households with a member with a disability require, on average, almost \$20,000 more annually to maintain a similar standard of living compared to households without a disability. Cuts would increase out-of-pocket expenses, exacerbate financial strain, and potentially lead to job losses for family caregivers who are already under financial and emotional stress.



**Prevention of a Public Health Crisis** Without Medicaid, many people with disabilities would neglect necessary care, leading to preventable hospitalizations, increased homelessness, and worsening health conditions. Medicaid helps people avoid emergency room visits and institutional care by funding preventive services and ongoing healthcare needs.



**Workforce Stability** Many Georgians rely on jobs funded by Medicaid, including healthcare professionals, support providers, and mental health specialists. Cuts could threaten these jobs, creating instability in the workforce and negatively impacting the people who rely on them.



**State Capacity to Serve Georgians in Need** Georgia spends approximately \$14.4 billion on Medicaid programs, with 66% of that funding coming from the federal government. Cuts to Medicaid would reduce the state's ability to meet the needs of its most vulnerable residents, leaving people without access to the care and services they depend on to live independently.



**Work Requirements Tied to Medicaid Restrict Access to Healthcare for People Most in Need** Current work requirements for some Medicaid recipients in Georgia (Pathways to Coverage) have created barriers to healthcare access due to application backlogs, excessive paperwork, and complex rules. Of the 240,000 people eligible, only about 5,500 have Medicaid coverage. These requirements disproportionately limit access for those who need care the most. It is crucial that federal Medicaid funding not be tied to work requirements in the future, as they make it harder for people with disabilities to access the healthcare and support they need.

# Georgia Representatives

*The 14 U.S. representatives from Georgia can work to block Medicaid cuts and advance disability rights. Most of them have been involved in legislation related to Medicaid. Below is information about current or previous legislation that they have sponsored or cosponsored. You can use this information to remind representatives about how important Medicaid is for people with disabilities in Georgia.*

Name & Contact	Committee Assignments	Medicaid-Related Legislation Sponsored
<a href="#">Carter, Earl</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 2432 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-5831 1 <sup>st</sup> District	Committee on Energy and Commerce  Committee on the Budget	<b><i>Sponsor of US HR 9686 (2023)</i></b> , The HEALTH Panel Act proposed the creation of a Panel of Health Advisors within the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to enhance the accuracy of health-related studies and cost estimates. This initiative aimed to improve Medicaid policies through better-informed decisions, enhanced policy analysis, and diverse expertise. <b><i>Sponsor of US HR 4096 (2023)</i></b>
<a href="#">Bishop, Sanford</a> (D) <b>Office Room</b> 2407 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-3631 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	Committee on Appropriations	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 608 (2025)</i></b> , which aims to amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The primary goal is to establish a demonstration project under the Medicaid program. This project would allow political subdivisions of states (such as counties or cities) to provide medical assistance to the expansion population under Medicaid. The bill also includes provisions for other related purposes.
<a href="#">Jack, Brian</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 1320 LHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-5901 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Committee on Oversight and Government Reform	<i>Representative Jack has not yet sponsored or co-sponsored a bill related to Medicaid.</i>
<a href="#">Johnson, Henry</a> (D) <b>Office Room</b> 2240 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-1605 4 <sup>th</sup> District	Judiciary  Transportation and Infrastructure	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 608 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 307 (2025)</i></b> To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of peripheral artery disease screening tests furnished to at-risk beneficiaries under the Medicare and Medicaid programs without imposing cost-sharing requirements and for other purposes.
<a href="#">Williams, Nikema</a> (D) <b>Office Room</b> 1406 LHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-3801 5 <sup>th</sup> District	Committee on Financial Services	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 608 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 4895 (2023)</i></b> , The <i>Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act</i> , primarily focused on drug pricing and reimbursement within existing Medicaid frameworks. The act would have impacted state Medicaid programs by altering reporting and billing practices related to drug pricing. Its main relevance was in reducing prescription drug costs and enhancing transparency in drug pricing.

Name & Contact	Committee Assignments	Medicaid-Related Legislation Sponsored
<a href="#">McBath, Lucy</a> (D) <b>Office Room</b> 2246 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-4501 6 <sup>th</sup> District	Education and Workforce Judiciary	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 608 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 9448 (2024)</i></b> The School Hunger Elimination Act of 2024 aimed to improve eligibility requirements for school meal programs by expanding the definition of “eligible child” to include those receiving medical assistance through Medicaid, with specific income thresholds for free and reduced-price meals.
<a href="#">McCormick, Richard</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 1719 LHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-4272 7 <sup>th</sup> District	Armed Services Science, Space, and Technology	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 7 (2025)</i></b> , The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2025 prohibits the use of federal Medicaid funds matching funds for abortions or health benefits that cover abortion services. States cannot use their Medicaid contributions to fund abortion services, potentially reducing the availability of such services for Medicaid recipients.
<a href="#">Scott, Austin</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 2185 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-6531 8 <sup>th</sup> District	Agriculture Armed Services  Intelligence Rules	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 9096 (2024)</i></b> , the Pharmacists Fight Back Act proposed amendments to Title XIX of the Social Security Act, which governs Medicaid, to improve prescription drug transparency. The bill required that beneficiaries' cost-sharing for prescription drugs be calculated using prices that reflect at least 80% of all rebates received, which could have lowered out-of-pocket expenses for Medicaid patients.
<a href="#">Clyde, Andrew</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 445 CHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-9893 9 <sup>th</sup> District	Appropriations Budget	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 7 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Sponsor of US HR 10299 (2024)</i></b> , The Medicaid Funds Integrity Act of 2024, aimed to amend the Social Security Act to prohibit Medicaid funding participation in gun violence prevention or intervention programs under the program. This bill would have impacted healthcare and social services sectors and programs focused on mental health and community safety initiatives by reducing the available resources for such programs.
<a href="#">Collins, Mike</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 2351 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-4101 10 <sup>th</sup> District	Natural Resources Transportation and Infrastructure Science, Space, and Technology	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 3329 (2023)</i></b> , the End Taxpayer Funding of Gender Experimentation Act of 2023, aimed to prohibit using Medicaid funds for gender transition procedures and related health benefits.
<a href="#">Loudermilk, Barry</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 2133 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-2931 11 <sup>th</sup> District	Financial Services House Administration	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 7 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 8857 (2024)</i></b> , The Conscience Protection Act of 2024, aimed to amend existing healthcare laws to prohibit discrimination against healthcare entities that choose not to participate in abortion services. The legislation emphasized protecting these entities from penalties for opting out of abortion services, which could have led to significant changes in healthcare practices and interactions with insurance providers.

Name & Contact	Committee Assignments	Medicaid-Related Legislation Sponsored
<a href="#">Allen, Rick</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 462 CHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-2823 12 <sup>th</sup> District	Education and Workforce  Energy and Commerce	<b><i>Cosponsor of US HR 4096 (2023)</i></b> The legislation <i>To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to expand the application of Medicaid State programs to monitor antipsychotic medications to all Medicaid beneficiaries</i> aimed to enhance the oversight of antipsychotic medication prescriptions for all Medicaid beneficiaries, regardless of age.
<a href="#">Scott, David</a> (D) <b>Office Room</b> 468 CHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-2939 13 <sup>th</sup> District	Agriculture Financial Services	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 608 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 8565 (2024)</i></b> The <i>Endometriosis CARE Act</i> aimed to enhance research, awareness, and patient support for endometriosis by authorizing significant funding for the National Institutes of Health and public information campaigns.
<a href="#">Greene, Marjorie</a> (R) <b>Office Room</b> 2201 RHOB <b>Phone</b> (202) 225-5211 14 <sup>th</sup> District	Oversight and Government Reform Homeland Security	<b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 7 (2025)</i></b> <b><i>Co-sponsor of US HR 498 (2025)</i></b> The legislation <i>To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for gender transition procedures for minors</i> aims to modify the Social Security Act specifically to restrict the use of federal Medicaid funds for gender transition procedures for individuals under the age of 18.



# Why Engage with Georgia's Representatives?

*Georgia's Representatives hold key positions in the House. They can use legislative tools like voting, amendments, and committee actions to block Medicaid cuts. Engaging them helps make sure that Medicaid remains fully funded.*

## What Can They Do?

## How Can They Do It?

### Block Harmful Legislation

If a bill proposing Medicaid cuts is introduced, Representatives can vote against it and rally other lawmakers to oppose it, ensuring that harmful cuts do not pass.

### Amend Bills

During debates on Medicaid-related legislation, Representatives can advocate for amendments that prevent Medicaid cuts or increase funding for disability services, ensuring the bills support those who rely on Medicaid.

### Press & Public Statements

Representatives can use media platforms, press releases, and public statements to highlight the importance of Medicaid for people with disabilities, pressuring Congress to maintain or increase funding for critical services.

### Hold Hearings & Investigations

They can call for hearings to investigate how Medicaid cuts would impact people with disabilities, service providers, and communities, ensuring that the effects of proposed changes are thoroughly examined.

### Urge HHS & CMS to Protect Medicaid

Representatives can lobby the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to prevent harmful policy changes that could cut Medicaid funding or reduce access to services.

### Advocate for State Medicaid Expansion

Although Georgia has not fully expanded Medicaid, Representatives can push for federal incentives to encourage the state to do so, providing coverage for more low-income individuals.

### Rally Other Lawmakers

Representatives can organize fellow lawmakers, especially those sympathetic to Medicaid issues, to oppose Medicaid cuts and advocate for a stronger Medicaid program.

### Negotiate Compromises

If budget cuts are proposed, Representatives can negotiate for targeted reductions or alternative funding sources to minimize the impact on Medicaid recipients, ensuring that essential services remain intact.



# Strategies for Advocating to Georgia Representatives

Advocates, people with disabilities, and their families can advocate against Medicaid cuts by telling their stories. They can also share why Medicaid is so important for people with disabilities and Georgia communities by reaching out in ways that are shared in the table below.

Advocacy Strategy	How to Do It
<b>Call and Email</b>	Contact their offices and share personal stories about how Medicaid supports people with disabilities.
<b>Write Letters</b>	Send handwritten letters explaining how Medicaid cuts would directly impact you or your family. <a href="#">Resources from the Autistic Self Advocacy Network can help craft these.</a>
<b>Support Existing Bills</b> <i>Some representatives have supported Medicaid expansion bills</i>	Thank them for their support and ask them to continue prioritizing Medicaid funding.
<b>Constituent Meetings</b>	Request in-person or virtual meetings with their staff to discuss Medicaid concerns.
<b>Town Halls &amp; Public Forums</b>	Attend events where they speak and ask questions about their plans to prevent Medicaid cuts.
<b>Social Media Advocacy</b>	Tag them in posts and use hashtags like #ProtectMedicaid #DisabilityRights. Share videos or testimonials about Medicaid's importance.
<b>Engage Healthcare Providers</b>	Ask doctors, therapists, and service providers to advocate for Medicaid protection with legislators.