

Sample

(date)

The Honorable _____
United States Senate / House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510 / 20515

**RE: STRONG OPPOSITION TO BLOCK GRANTING OR GREATLY
REDUCING THE FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICAID**

Dear Senator / Representative _____;

As your constituent, I am strongly opposed to the plan which passed the US House of Representatives on April 15, 2011, which would result in the federal contribution to the Medicaid program being turned into a “block grant” program and greatly reduced.

Medicaid currently serves more than 50 million Americans, mostly low-income Americans who cannot otherwise afford health care. Currently, 56% of those enrolled in Medicaid are racial or ethnic minority Americans. The extremist budget plan which passed the US House of Representatives would dramatically restructure Medicaid by converting it to a “block grant” program, through which states are given a finite amount of money regardless of the health care needs of their populations and sharply cutting the program’s amount of money states receive from the federal government. The House budget plan would result in a reduction of the federal funds expended on Medicaid by 35% in 2022 and by 49% in 2030, compared to what the funding would otherwise be. To compensate for the steep reductions in federal funding, states would be forced to make up the difference by contributing more or, if they cannot or will not provide additional funding they will likely cap enrollment, substantially scale back eligibility, and curtail benefits. Those most at risk of not receiving adequate health care under this proposal are seniors, people with disabilities, children, working parents and pregnant women.

While I agree that we must do more to reduce the federal deficit, I do not believe we should do so on the backs of the most vulnerable among us. There must be a better way.

I look forward to working with you to bring order to our fiscal house while not causing undo harm to those who can least afford it, or by forcing another American to go without adequate health care, shelter, childcare or an education. Please contact me in the near future to let me know what you are doing to help protect vulnerable Americans while still being fiscally prudent.

Sincerely,

(sign and print your name and
remember to include your address)

***Remember to contact your
Representative and BOTH
your Senators.***

