

March 20, 2008

The Honorable John Dingell  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Dingell:

On behalf of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) we want to thank you for introducing the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act (H.R. 5613), that would put a moratoria on the Medicaid regulations imposed by the Bush Administration and offer our support.

The moratoria are vital to protect harmful changes in Medicaid affecting beneficiaries, providers and states. Medicaid provides vital medical, social, and educational service coverage necessary for individuals with disabilities. These programs under Medicaid allow individuals with physical, cognitive, and developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, youngsters in the foster care system, persons living with HIV/AIDS, and individuals with serious mental illnesses to fully participate in all aspects of community life. Your bill would prevent CMS from implementing seven harmful regulations which would result in significant cuts to services and supports for individuals with disabilities and other vulnerable populations.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue and AUCD looks forward to working with you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,



William E. Kiernan, PhD  
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