



We are writing to urge you to call your Senators as the Senate continues to work in secrecy, behind closed doors on its version of the American Healthcare Act (AHCA). The full Senate has yet to see the bill and Senate rules require the bill to be scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) before a Senate vote. The health insurance coverage of 23 million people is at stake. Call your Senators and demand:

1. Demand the Senate release its version of the AHCA for public review, hold hearings, and have the plan subjected to independent analysis before a Senate vote. People living with HIV and other diseases must be allowed to weigh in and understand the full impact of legislation that would dramatically threaten their quality of life.
2. Demand the Senate retain the federal entitlement status of Medicaid. A \$834B cut to the federal match and changing Medicaid to block grants or per capital caps would damage and limit critical health services to the low income, the disabled, children, and the elderly in long-term care. Shifting costs from the federal government to the states will restrict eligibility and reduce access to important health services provided in hospitals and health centers.
3. Demand the inclusion and protect a set of Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) in the AHCA. EHBs require the coverage of pharmaceutical drugs, mental health services, substance-use treatments, emergency care services, and maternity care as well as prohibiting lifetime or annual limits on care and treatment.
4. Protect full access to health insurance and full benefits coverage for people with pre-existing conditions.
5. Demand the Senate say no to state waivers that would result in the elimination of protections against inflated insurance costs for people with pre-existing conditions and the elderly. The AHCA must not allow insurance companies to void essential benefits and protections for pre-existing conditions for clients, even in states that choose to keep them, by selling insurance from a state that has eliminated the provisions.

You can reach your Senator by calling 1-202-224-3121 or [www.senate.gov/senators/contact/](http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/).

### **CAEAR Coalition**

The Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition is a national membership organization which advocates for federal policy, legislation, regulations, and appropriations to meet the care, treatment, support and prevention needs of people living with HIV/AIDS and the organizations that serve them, focusing on health care reform and the evolving role of the Ryan White Program. CAEAR Coalition's proactive national leadership is focused on the Ryan White Program as a central part of the nation's response to HIV/AIDS. CAEAR Coalition's members include Ryan White Program Part A, Part B, and Part C consumers, grantees, and providers as well as the Part F AIDS Education and Training Centers. Learn more about the CAEAR Coalition at [www.caeear.org](http://www.caeear.org).