Co-sponsor the Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act (S. 4717/H.R. 5900)

The bipartisan Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act (S. 4717/H.R. 5900) would improve children’s access to needed out of state health care by streamlining the Medicaid provider screening and enrollment process.

- Children on Medicaid whose needs cannot be met by health care providers in their home states often incur delays in being able to access care because of some state Medicaid programs requiring out-of-state providers to be screened and enrolled into their program even if the provider is already enrolled and in good standing in their home Medicaid program and in Medicare. This process of enrolling in additional Medicaid programs consumes valuable time and resources, increases program costs and delays children’s access to care.

- The Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act seeks to facilitate access to care and remove these burdensome and costly processes. The legislation creates a new pathway for providers of health care to children to enroll in multiple state Medicaid programs if certain requirements are met, including that they are in the lowest category for potential program integrity issues and are enrolled in their own home state Medicaid program.

- The legislation stipulates that providers would be those caring for children and for people age 18 or older if their condition onset was before age 18. This is meant to improve continuity of care and recognizes that some specialty care to young adults may still be provided by pediatric providers (e.g., Duchenne, spinal muscular atrophy, sickle cell, young adult cancers).

- The legislation focuses only on the screening and enrollment of providers and not on authorization of care by an out-of-state provider nor payment rates for any such care, leaving both issues with the purview of state Medicaid agencies.


- This legislation will improve children’s access to essential health care, while eliminating administrative burdens for providers and states. **We ask lawmakers to please co-sponsor S. 4717/H.R. 5900 and for Congress to enact the Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act this year.**