PASS ACCELERATING KIDS' ACCESS TO CARE ACT NOW!

Led by Senators Grassley, R-Iowa, and Bennet, D-Colo., and Representatives Trahan, D-Mass., and Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa.

Enact the Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act (S. 752/H.R. 1509) this year.

Many times children enrolled in Medicaid must travel to different states to receive care when the services they need are not available in their own state. This is particularly true for children with medically complex conditions, like cancer or other rare diseases, who need highly specialized providers found in children's hospitals. These providers often treat children from many different states at any given time.

Today, children on Medicaid who need care outside their home states often experience delays in care because some states require additional screening and enrollment for out-of-state providers, even those already enrolled and in good standing with their home state Medicaid program and Medicare.

This process of enrolling in multiple Medicaid programs consumes valuable time and resources, increases program costs, and most importantly, delays children's access to care.

THE ACCELERATING KIDS' ACCESS TO CARE ACT WOULD:

Create a new pathway for pediatric providers to enroll in multiple state Medicaid programs if certain requirements are met, including being in the lowest category for potential program integrity issues and enrolled in their home state's Medicaid program.



Focus only on provider screening and enrollment, and not on authorization of care by an out-of-state provider nor payment rates for such care, leaving both issues within the purview of state Medicaid agencies.



Improve children's timely access to essential health care and eliminate administrative burdens for providers and states and delays in care.



LILY'S STORY

Lily was born in a rural state with her esophagus in two separate segments and connected abnormally to the windpipe. Doctors said correcting the condition required a complex procedure only available at two places in the country, one being Boston Children's Hospital. Despite her family being prepared to travel immediately, Lily's surgery was rescheduled more than three times over seven months due to delays in enrolling the necessary providers at Boston Children's in her home state's Medicaid program. Those delays left Lily with a floppy airway, weakened immune system, and routine breathing difficulties.

Kids like Lily should never have to face bureaucratic red tape to obtain life-saving procedures. The Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act ensures that out-of-state providers like Lily's surgeons can provide timely care to kids who need it, when they need it.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

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