

Stop Cuts to Child Welfare Programs!

Stop cuts to child welfare programs during the budget reconciliation legislation.

Children's programs that may be at risk for cuts are Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance and Medicaid. The Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs may be capped into block grants, meaning that states would get a set amount regardless of state's increased demands. This could result in states reducing foster care payments to foster parents and may force changes in policies that help prevent abuse of children. Cuts to Medicaid may restrict the use of Medicaid for children in the child welfare system.

Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs:

- Assists states in finding adoptive homes for children with special needs
- Provides financial and medical assistance for adopted children with special needs
- Funds staff training and administrative costs
- Funding for foster care
- Funding for transitional independent living programs

Medicaid

- Assists States in the provision of adequate medical care to eligible needy persons
- Medicaid is the largest program providing medical and health-related services to America's poorest people

For more information you may go to <http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/alrt050630.htm>.

What you can do

Continue to call, write or email your Senators and Representative and ask for their support in protecting funding and programs that serve children and ask that they oppose cuts, block grants or capping of the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs and that they oppose cuts to the Medicaid program that would hurt children in the child welfare system.

To find your Representative's contact information you can go to <http://www.house.gov/writerep/> and to find your Senator's contact information you can go to <http://www.senate.gov/>, or you can call the U.S. switchboard at 202-224-3121.