



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
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May 24, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Reid, Representative Boehner and Senator McConnell:

On behalf of the volunteers and supporters of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the nonpartisan nonprofit advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, we strongly support legislative efforts to extend the enhanced Medicaid match established in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for an additional six months.

This critical federal support has helped states endure the economic downturn without drastic cuts to their Medicaid programs. To protect Medicaid coverage and benefits for cancer patients, ARRA also required states to maintain Medicaid eligibility requirements as a condition of receiving the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). That initial rate increase is currently set to expire December 31, 2010, but states still need support in order to meet the elevated demand for Medicaid services. If the enhanced rate is not extended, many states will be forced to make cuts to programs across the board and tens of thousands of Medicaid cancer patients may have their health coverage put at risk.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed a six-month extension of enhanced Medicaid payments as part of H.R. 4213, the American Workers, State and Business Relief Act. The House passed a similar provision last year. To ensure patient access to quality care, ACS CAN urges Congress to expedite the legislation and send a six-month extension of

the enhanced FMAP – with the Medicaid eligibility maintenance requirement to the President.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly A. Daniels". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Molly A. Daniels
Interim President