

June 4, 2026

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 521
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Roger Marshall
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, Suite 479A
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sharice Davids
United States House of Representatives
2453 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tracey Mann
United States House of Representatives
344 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Estes
United States House of Representatives
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek Schmidt
United States House of Representatives
1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Moran, Senator Marshall, Representative Davids, Representative Mann, Representative Estes, and Representative Schmidt:

We, the undersigned, write to urge you to protect the Kansas Medicaid program. As family members, advocates, and service providers across Kansas, we see firsthand the vital role Medicaid plays in the health, stability, and economic security of hundreds of thousands of Kansans.

Medicaid is a cornerstone of our state's healthcare and dental care system. Over the past several years the Kansas Legislature has invested in the Kansas Medicaid dental program, ensuring that it provides dental care for adults and children. The Legislature's investments

demonstrate the value Kansas places on making sure people with disabilities, older adults, pregnant women, and children have access to life saving and life changing dental care.

Oral health is essential to overall health, and dental care is not optional. Pain, infection, and untreated dental conditions can lead to serious health complications, missing school and work, and even expensive emergency room visits. Medicaid dental coverage plays a vital role in helping children thrive, adults stay healthy and employed, and older adults and people with disabilities maintain independence and quality of life. It also ensures chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes stay under control. Most importantly, it honors the dignity of those who have Medicaid coverage to care for themselves and their families.

Any potential federal cuts or limitations to this essential healthcare program would have far-reaching consequences – reducing access to preventive and life-saving care, increasing uncompensated costs for providers, and threatening the viability of dental care providers. If the funding cuts were to affect the Kansas Medicaid program, Kansans would go without care. **There is no second option for people who are eligible for Medicaid.** Without care, they will get sicker and be left without any options except the emergency room, which is very expensive and where dental care is not actually available.

In Kansas, Medicaid is not just a safety net—it's a pathway to health, dignity, and opportunity. It supports services that keep families healthy, help people return to work, and allow seniors and people with disabilities to live independently in their communities.

This year one Kansas dentist provided testimony to the Kansas Legislature urging continued investments in the Medicaid dental program by saying:

“When you invest in Medicaid dental care, you are not just funding dentistry.

You are investing in prevention to reduce costly emergency room visits.

You are investing in workforce stability to keep dental healthcare providers employed.

You are investing in Kansans who deserve to establish a dental home in their own communities, not traveling across the state to find someone who takes their insurance.”

We urge you to reject any proposals that would cap, cut, or undermine the Medicaid program. Instead, we ask that you work to protect and strengthen it so that Kansans can continue to count on the care they need as they live healthy, happy, and productive lives.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the people of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Oral Health Kansas, Inc.
Adam F. Lukens, DDS, LLC

Adventure Dental & Vision
 Armbruster Consulting
 Blue Cloud Pediatric Surgical Centers
 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas
 Children's Dental Professionals, LLC
 Community Care Network of Kansas
 Enable Dental
 Families Together
 Headquarters Kansas
 Health Forward Foundation
 InterHab
 Jenkins Dentistry for Kids
 Johnson County Dental Care, PA
 Kansas Dental Association
 Kansas Youth Dental
 LeBlanc & Associates Dentistry for Children
 Little Chompers Pediatric Dentistry
 Mark A. Herzog, DDS, PA
 Northwest Smile Center
 Olathe Pediatric Dental
 PrairieStar Health Center
 PrairieStar Health Center Dental Outreach
 Rogers Family Dentistry, PA
 Salina Family Healthcare Center
 Stephen D. Pendleton, DDS, PA
 Turner Dental Group
 United Healthcare

Organization's scope (statewide or local)

28 responses

