

105 Democratic Representatives wrote a letter (April 14, 2008), initiated by Rep. Artur Davis, to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, which requested at least \$15 billion in additional temporary Medicaid funding to states through an increased federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). The Representatives also requested fiscal relief grants to states.

The 105 co-signers are below:

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Neil Abercrombie (HI) | 38. Phil Hare (IL) | 74. Donald Payne (NJ) |
| 2. Tom Allen (ME) | 39. Alcee Hastings (FL) | 75. Laura Richardson (CA) |
| 3. Joe Baca (CA) | 40. Maurice Hinchey (NY) | 76. Steve Rothman (NJ) |
| 4. Tammy Baldwin (WI) | 41. Paul Hodes (NH) | 77. Dutch Ruppersberger (MD) |
| 5. Shelley Berkeley (NV) | 42. Rush Holt (NJ) | 78. Bobby Rush (IL) |
| 6. Howard Berman (CA) | 43. Mike Honda (CA) | 79. Tim Ryan (OH) |
| 7. Sanford Bishop (GA) | 44. Jesse Jackson, Jr. (IL) | 80. Linda Sanchez (CA) |
| 8. Leonard Boswell (IA) | 45. Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX) | 81. John Sarbanes (MD) |
| 9. Rick Boucher (VA) | 46. William Jefferson (LA) | 82. Jan Schakowsky (IL) |
| 10. Robert Brady (PA) | 47. Hank Johnson (GA) | 83. Adam Schiff (CA) |
| 11. Bruce Braley (IA) | 48. Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH) | 84. Bobby Scott (VA) |
| 12. Corrine Brown (FL) | 49. Marci Kaptur (OH) | 85. Carol Shea-Porter (NH) |
| 13. G.K. Butterfield (NC) | 50. Patrick Kennedy (RI) | 86. Albio Sires (NJ) |
| 14. Lois Capps (CA) | 51. Dale Kildee (MI) | 87. Hilda Solis (CA) |
| 15. Michael Capuano (MA) | 52. Dennis Kucinich (OH) | 88. Zachary Space (OH) |
| 16. Dennis Cardoza (CA) | 53. Barbara Lee (CA) | 89. Pete Stark (CA) |
| 17. Kathy Castor (FL) | 54. Sander Levin (MI) | 90. Betty Sutton (OH) |
| 18. Ben Chandler (KY) | 55. John Lewis (GA) | 91. Ellen Tauscher (CA) |
| 19. Donna Christensen (VI) | 56. Dave Loebsack (IA) | 92. John Tierney (MA) |
| 20. Yvette Clark (NY) | 57. Stephen Lynch (MA) | 93. Ed Towns (NY) |
| 21. William Lacy Clay (MO) | 58. Carolyn Maloney (NY) | 94. Niki Tsongas (MA) |
| 22. Jim Costa (CA) | 59. Edward Markey (A) | 95. Chris Van Hollen (MD) |
| 23. Jerry Costello (IL) | 60. Doris Matsui (CA) | 96. Nydia Velázquez (NY) |
| 24. Elijah Cummings (MD) | 61. Betty McCollum (MN) | 97. Tim Walz (MN) |
| 25. Artur Davis (AL) | 62. Jim McDermott (WA) | 98. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL) |
| 26. Danny Davis (IL) | 63. Jim McGovern (MA) | 99. Diane Watson (CA) |
| 27. Susan Davis (CA) | 64. Kendrick Meek (FL) | 100. Mel Watt (NC) |
| 28. William Delahunt (MA) | 65. Gregory Meeks (NY) | 101. Anthony Weiner (NY) |
| 29. Keith Ellison (MN) | 66. Michael Michaud (ME) | 102. Peter Welch (VT) |
| 30. Eliot Engel (NY) | 67. Gwen Moore (WI) | 103. Robert Wexler (FL) |
| 31. Bob Etheridge (NC) | 68. James Moran (VA) | 104. Lynn Woolsey (CA) |
| 32. Sam Farr (CA) | 69. Jerrold Nadler (NY) | 105. John Yarmuth (KY) |
| 33. Gabrielle Giffords (AZ) | 70. Grace Napolitano (CA) | |
| 34. Al Green (TX) | 71. Richard Neal (MA) | |
| 35. Gene Green (TX) | 72. John Olver (MA) | |
| 36. Raul Grijalva (AZ) | 73. Bill Pascrell (NJ) | |
| 37. John Hall (NY) | | |

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20514

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

We commend your leadership in pulling together the bipartisan economic stimulus package that passed the House of Representatives with our support on January 29, 2008. We are concerned, however, that the package did not contain fiscal relief to help states maintain their Medicaid budgets. As you contemplate additional legislation to help the U.S. economy avoid further decline, we urge you to provide at least \$15 billion in temporary state Medicaid funding.

Although we are just at the beginning of the economic slowdown, numerous states around the country are already experiencing a drop-off in tax revenues. According to the latest data from Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, 21 states face budget shortfalls in 2009 and at least 7 others expect budget problems. As these states are forced to make tough choices in order to balance their state budgets, as their constitutions order them to do, we are concerned that Medicaid will be an inevitable target for cuts. During the 2001-2002 recession, 34 states cut eligibility for Medicaid programs, causing over 1 million people to lose health coverage.

Our caucus has made universal access to health care a priority. This worthy goal will be undermined if the Medicaid safety net is compromised. It should be unacceptable for this Congress to stand aside while states narrow their scope of coverage, or abandon services that would otherwise be outside the reach of Medicaid recipients.

As you recall, as part of the last stimulus bill in 2003, Congress overwhelmingly passed \$20 billion in state fiscal relief, including a temporary increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) and targeted grants. The Congressional Budget Office's January 18 report, *Options for Responding to Short-Term Economic Weakness*, attested to the efficacy of the 2003 Medicaid relief: "More than half of the states reported that the

increased matching rates enabled them to avoid or delay making cuts – or to make smaller cuts – to their Medicaid program.”

As you continue to work to boost our nation’s ailing economy, we strongly urge you to include a package of FMAP increases and state grants, as well as a “hold harmless” provision for Medicaid FMAP funding decreases.

We commend you again on your skillful leadership, which is putting our nation on a path of economic recovery.

Sincerely,

Antony Davis

Mike A. Seay

Pete Starks

Doris O. Mitchell

Stephen Johnson

Liziane E. Waterman

Tom Byrnes

Kathy Coster

Pat

Col. B. Wolff

John Lewis

Jim Cooper

Wm. Lacy Clay

John P. Solomon

Alvin

Patrick J. Kennedy

Butterfield

Shelley Berkley

Jabell

Rhodes

J. O.

Kaura Richardson

Howard L. Berman

Donald Payne

Richard

Elizabeth Cummings

Melvin L. Watt

Jim Moran

Robert Work

Gregory Wofford

Alcee Hastings

Tommy Baldwin

Dennis J. Kucinich

Barbara Lee

Stephen Mills Gray

Rush Holt

Allie Pies

Jan Perry

Yvette D. Clarke

Jim M. Emmett

Kendrick B. M. —

Ann Van Holt

C. A. Dick & Ruppensburg

Marion H. Marshall

Betty Sutton

Michael M. Bond

Betty McAllen

Grace J. Napolitano

Ave LaLack

Carol Shea-Power

Neil Abercrombie

Phil G. Co

Tom J. Long

Joe B. B. Co

Araceli Davis

W. Abbott

Bee Chandler

J. M. Carter

Bruce L. Gray

Hilda L. Lohs

Tir Ryan

Thomas L. Jones

Rail M. Guizalva

Peter Welch

Mike

Anna J. Sanchez

John Hall

Bryson

Don Stone

Jandy Lee

Lois Capps

John W. Oliver

Phil Hare

[Signature]

Walter Anderson

Bill Pasorell Jr

Jimmy V. Catlett

Bob T. Nash

Bill Buchanan

Wanda Hill

Samuel D. Bridgely

Sheila Jackson Lee

Sam Lan

Keith Ellin

Hank Johnson

Don Johnson

Edward G. Markey

Art Killeo

Niki Bongas

Loane

Cathy B. Maloy

Jerold Nader

Tom Nader

Corine Brown

Tom Allen

John F. Tunney

Lynn Woolsey

Bill Delahunt

Samuel H. Dain

Erin E. Enger

Rip Buchanan

Nydia S. Uff Jr

Steven A. Notke

Marcy Kaptur