Graham-Cassidy Bill Would Kick Kids, Seniors and Families Off Health Coverage

Yesterday the Schuyler Center joined 40 health care and consumer groups from around the state in sending a letter to the New York Congressional delegation in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

This bill proposes the same massive cuts to Medicaid that have been rejected time and again; it would strip billions of dollars in federal funding from all states and kick kids, seniors and people with disabilities off their health coverage. Americans have already sent the message loud and clear: it is unacceptable to shred our safety net and take coverage away from the kids, seniors and families in our communities who need it most.

In addition to threatening Medicaid and Marketplace coverage, Graham-Cassidy is also derailing current efforts to renew funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (Child Health Plus). CHIP funding must be renewed by September 30 or kids’ coverage will be at risk. Last week, a bipartisan bill was introduced to extend CHIP funding for five years. With only a few legislative days left in September, Congress has a choice to make: support coverage for kids and families by protecting Medicaid and renewing funding for CHIP, or decimate our nation’s safety net and kick kids, seniors and people with disabilities off their coverage. It’s hard to imagine a worse scenario for low-income children and families.