



General Letter-to-the-Editor Template

Medicaid cuts threaten the health of Michiganders

Medicaid is critical to Michigan’s healthcare system, ensuring access to essential medical services at every stage of life. Michigan’s Medicaid expansion, known as the Healthy Michigan Plan, has successfully reduced the uninsured rate, improved health outcomes, and provided economic stability for families.

However, proposed federal cuts to Medicaid—through mechanisms like block grants, per capita caps, and reduced federal matching rates—could create a \$1.73 billion shortfall in Michigan’s budget. Such cuts would jeopardize access to healthcare for millions across the state, including 970,000 children who rely on Medicaid for essential care, and X residents in [Community Name]. [Insert any additional economic or healthcare-related implications.]

Medicaid is the single largest payer for long-term care, maternity care, and mental health services, so not only would the proposals put healthcare coverage at risk, but they would force hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and home health agencies to make painful decisions – cutting services, laying off staff, or even shutting their doors.

As the [Job Title] of [Hospital Name], I know how big of a role Medicaid plays in supporting Michigan’s healthcare workforce, the state’s largest private-sector employer. Without adequate funding, rural hospitals—65 of which depend heavily on Medicaid—face the risk of closure, devastating communities by eliminating jobs, weakening local economies, and forcing residents to travel longer distances for critical care.

Medicaid expansion has saved lives, sustained hospitals, and strengthened Michigan’s healthcare system. I’m calling on lawmakers to reject proposals that jeopardize this vital program and instead work to protect and enhance healthcare access for all. Our state's health and economic stability depend on it.

Word count: 262



Rural Hospital Letter-to-the-Editor Template

Medicaid cuts threaten the health of rural Michiganders

Rural hospitals are the backbone of Michigan's communities, providing lifesaving care, supporting local economies, and ensuring residents have access to essential health services close to home. However, federal proposals to cut Medicaid funding threaten the future of these institutions, putting communities, jobs, and patient lives at risk.

Proposed cuts through mechanisms like block grants, per capita caps, and reduced federal matching rates could create a \$1.73 billion shortfall in Michigan's budget. This would jeopardize access to healthcare for millions across the state, including 970,000 children who rely on Medicaid for essential care, and X residents in [Community Name]. [Insert any additional economic or healthcare-related implications.]

Medicaid is a lifeline for Michigan's 65 rural hospitals, including [Hospital Name], which rely on the program to sustain operations and keep our doors open. It is the single largest payer for long-term care, maternity services, and mental health treatment. If Medicaid funding is slashed, rural hospitals like mine may be forced to cut services, lay off staff, or even shut down entirely.

Losing rural hospitals would have devastating consequences. Communities would be left without access to emergency care, maternity services, mental health treatment, and other critical healthcare needs. Patients would have to travel longer distances for care, increasing the risk of delayed or missed treatments. Local economies would also suffer, as rural hospitals are often one of the largest employers in their regions.

Medicaid expansion has saved lives in every corner of the state, sustained hospitals, and strengthened Michigan's healthcare system. I'm calling on lawmakers to reject proposals that jeopardize this vital program and instead work to protect healthcare access for all. Our state's health and economic stability depend on it.

Word count: 277