

SAMPLE #1

Letter to the Editor

Disabled Students under Attack by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Dear Editor:

Students with disabilities are under attack by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The federal government formally released proposed regulations to eliminate more than \$3.6 billion over five years in federal Medicaid reimbursements for school-based administrative activities and special education transportation services. The (LOCAL NAME OF DISTRICT) would lose more than (INSERT DOLLAR FIGURE) and California overall would take a \$100 million hit from this cut. More importantly, the federal government is setting a dangerous precedent in cutting the most vital funding for students with the greatest need for assistance. The more than (INSERT NUMBER OF DISABLED STUDENTS IN YOUR DISTRICT) students with disabilities in our district need the funding for services such as physical and occupational therapies, and transportation for such services. CMS must roll back its planned cuts. All of our students deserve a high-quality education.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

Phone Number

SAMPLE #2

Letter to the Editor

Proposed Medicaid Cuts to Impact Disabled Students

Dear Editor:

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have proposed eliminating funding for the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988 in the proposed 2008 Federal Budget. This act directly targets (INSERT NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES) students with disabilities in the (INSERT DISTRICT NAME) and would cost the (LOCAL NAME OF DISTRICT) more than (INSERT DOLLAR FIGURE). Under the Act, school districts are allowed to be reimbursed from Medicaid for health services delivered to Medicaid-eligible children with disabilities who may need diagnostic, preventive and rehabilitative services. In addition, school districts may claim reimbursement for the administrative costs of providing school-based Medicaid services such as outreach for enrollment purposes, and coordination and monitoring of medical care. The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and CMS must back down from the proposed elimination of funding. We should be investing in our students, not cutting assistance for the students that need it the most.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

Phone Number
