



Family Voices Applauds Outcome of Senate Health Care Vote and Urges Bipartisan Efforts to Strengthen the Health Care System

As a nonpartisan organization of and for families of children and youth with special health care needs, Family Voices would like to applaud those Members of the Senate who voted against the health care legislation on the Floor Thursday night.

Senators Collins, Murkowski, McCain, and all Democratic Senators, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your decision to protect access to health care for children and youth with special health care needs (as well as others). They and their families are very grateful that you recognize the importance of current protections for people with pre-existing conditions and very high medical expenses.

We also thank all the Senators who voted to protect the Medicaid program. Medicaid is vital to the health of children and youth with special health care needs and the well-being of their families, and it constitutes the backbone of the health care infrastructure for *all* children in this country.

Going forward, we implore all Member of Congress – on both sides of the Capitol and both sides of the aisle – to work together, in an open process, to develop legislation to ensure health insurance coverage that is adequate and affordable for everyone. Just getting any bill passed should not be the goal. The goal should be a sound health care system which delivers quality care to all, especially children – the future of our country.

About Family Voices

Family Voices is a national, nonprofit, family-led organization promoting quality health care for all children and youth, particularly those with special health care needs. Working with family leaders and professional partners at the local, state, regional, and national levels since 1992, Family Voices has brought a respected family perspective to improving health care programs and policies and ensuring that health care systems include, listen to, and honor the voices of families.