November 3, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Speaker Pelosi,

Thank you for your effort and leadership in including provisions to close the Medicaid coverage Gap in *Build Back Better Act*. This fix for non-expansion states will finally provide comprehensive, affordable health care to 4.4 million low-income Americans, 646,000 of whom are Georgians, and 60 percent of whom are individuals of color.[1]

Today, we write to respectfully request that the provision reducing the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allotment by 12.5% be removed. The DSH program assists hospitals that serve a high Medicaid and uncompensated care population and is meant to support hospitals for treating the most vulnerable patients. Reducing federal funds to hospitals and providers can be detrimental to their survival, and in the midst of a global pandemic, we should not be imposing additional financial constraints. It is critical that we do everything we can to support our providers and ensure they are able to provide the best care to patients across this country. A reduction in DSH could jeopardize their ability to provide such care.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we stand ready to work with you so we can finally fulfill our promise to the American people of providing quality, affordable coverage to everyone while also ensuring that our providers remain whole.

Sincerely,

Reverend Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

Jon Ossoff
United States Senator

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[1] https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2021/05/marketplace-pulse-lets-close-the-coverage-gap.html ;
https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/102359/the-implications-of-medicaid-expansion-in-the-remaining-states-2020-update_0.pdf

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

David Scott
Member of Congress

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Lucy McBath
Member of Congress

Carolyn Bourdeaux
Member of Congress

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