

October 17, 2011

Jeanne Lambrew  
Office of Health Reform  
Executive Office of the President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,  
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Lambrew,

The undersigned organizations write to encourage you to finalize the proposed regulations on public participation in Section 1115 research and demonstration proposals (75 FR 56946) as soon as possible.

Many states are considering significant changes to their Medicaid programs that would require that they request waivers of provisions of the Medicaid statute under Section 1115. Final regulations are needed to ensure transparency and an opportunity for public input. We understand that you have many competing priorities, and we are sympathetic to the heavy demands on the Administration. Nonetheless, given that many states are already discussing or have submitted comprehensive Medicaid waivers, we hope that you will make finalizing these important regulations a top priority.

Thank you so much for your attention to this matter.

AARP

American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Health Care Association

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

American Network of Community Options and Resources

Children's Defense Fund

Children's Dental Health Project

Community Access National Network

Easter Seals

Families USA

First Focus

Georgetown University Center for Children and Families

LeadingAge

National Association for Children's Behavioral Health

National Association of Children's Hospitals

National Association of Community Health Centers

National Center for Assisted Living

National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare

National Council on Aging

National Health Law Program

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

National Women's Law Center  
Service Employees International Union  
The Arc  
The Children's Partnership  
The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care