

States have experienced severe fiscal stress during the last few years, with sharp declines in revenues and budget shortfalls. This economic downturn, from which many States are only now emerging, has continued to leave many families jobless and without health insurance, forcing to turn to Medicaid. This has put an enormous strain on the States such as Maine which are already strapped with budget shortfalls. Many States reduced Medicaid benefits last year and even more restricted Medicaid eligibility in an effort to satisfy their budgetary obligations.

The formula for calculating the Federal matching rate, known as the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage, FMAP, which determines the Federal Government's share of Medicaid expenditures, has contributed to the Medicaid problems that States are facing. The FMAP formula is designed so that the Federal Government pays a larger portion of Medicaid costs in States with a per capita income lower than the national average. Since Maine is a relatively poor State with a disproportionately large low-income elderly population, it has had a favorable Federal-State match in recent years, 66 percent in 2004. This translated to \$1.4 billion in Federal dollars last year—two-thirds of MaineCare's \$2 billion in Medicaid spending.

The size of Maine's Medicaid population means that any change in the FMAP has a disproportionately significant impact on Maine's budget. This year, Maine's Federal matching rate decreased from 66.01 percent to 64.89 percent, a drop of more than one percent. The change in FMAP for FY2006 is even greater and will cause 28 States, including Maine, to lose a significant amount of Federal matching funds next year. Maine's Federal matching rate will drop nearly two points, from 64.89 percent to 62.9 percent next year, which will result in Maine losing \$46.7 million in Federal matching funds.

Under existing Federal law, the FMAP is determined based on the three most recent calendar years for which data is available from the Department of Commerce. This 3 year "look back" captures a period of time that is not necessarily reflective of a State's current financial situation. The FMAP for FY 2003, for example, was calculated in 2001 for the fiscal year beginning October 2002. The FY 2003 FMAP was determined on the basis, of State per capita income over the 3 year period of 1998 through 2000, when State economies were growing significantly. Yet in 2003, when this matching rate was in effect, a serious economic downturn was affecting many State budgets, and that downturn has contributed greatly to the growth of Medicaid for several years now.

We recognized this situation in the last Congress and provided for State fiscal relief by providing a temporary increase in the Federal Medicaid matching rate, which provided \$10 bil-

lion in fiscal relief to States during fiscal 2003 and 2004, when we passed the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 but that temporary Federal fiscal relief has now ended.

This Congress has reached a budget agreement which, among its terms, calls for reductions of \$10 billion in Medicaid spending over the next 5 years. At this time, therefore, it is especially crucial that we continue to provide sufficient Federal matching funds for Medicaid, which has worked so well over the last 40 years. Our legislation is intended to be just a short term fix, for fiscal year 2006. It is my hope that we will see the creation of a Medicaid Commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the Medicaid program and make recommendations on how to make Federal matching payments more equitable with respect to the States and the populations they serve, as well as how to make them more responsive to changes in States' economic conditions.

However, today, states such as Maine are facing dramatic and unpredictable fluctuations to their State FMAP formulas. This legislation would limit the percentage decrease to a half percentage point for fiscal year 2006 and help mitigate the drastic effects that a severe loss Federal funding would have on our Medicaid population next year.

I therefore urge my colleagues to join us supporting this legislation to help sustain funding for Medicaid in fiscal year 2006 to help ensure that this critical health care safety net remains intact next year for those who need it most.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 619. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 620. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 621. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 622. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 623. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 624. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 625. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra.

SA 626. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 627. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 628. Mrs. CLINTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 629. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 630. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 631. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 632. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 633. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 634. Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 635. Mr. BYRD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 636. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 637. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 638. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 639. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 640. Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 641. Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 642. Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 643. Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 696. Mr. SARBANES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 697. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 698. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 699. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 700. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 701. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 702. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 703. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 704. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 705. Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 706. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 707. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 708. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 709. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 710. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 711. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 712. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 713. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill

H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 714. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 715. Mr. GREGG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 716. Mr. GREGG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 717. Mrs. CLINTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 718. Mr. STEVENS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 719. Mr. McCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 720. Mr. McCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 721. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 722. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 723. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 724. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 725. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 726. Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. OBAMA, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 727. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 728. Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 729. Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. DEWINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 730. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 731. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 732. Mr. DODD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 733. Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BURR, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 734. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 735. Mr. DORGAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 736. Mr. DORGAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 737. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 738. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 739. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 740. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 741. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 742. Mr. INHOFE (for Mr. TALENT (for himself and Mr. DODD)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 619. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 605 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1403 and insert the following:

SEC. 1403. INCREASED PENALTIES FOR HIGHER-RISK DRIVERS DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED OR DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 164 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 164. Increased penalties for higher-risk drivers driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION.—The term ‘blood alcohol concentration’ means