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***A Message from AAP President Fernando Stein, MD, FAAP***

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I am writing to you today to simply say thank you.

Because of you, children were heard in the health care debate. The dangerous Senate health care bill did not advance, and Medicaid remains protected, for now. Because of you, this [video](#) of pediatricians advocating for Medicaid has been viewed more than 100,000 times on social media - and because of you, children's needs were printed in more than 60 newspapers in 30 states.

The Better Care Reconciliation Act failed children. It would have left more families uninsured or without insurance they could afford or that met their basic needs. It would have taken Medicaid away from the millions of children and families who depend on the program. Pediatricians recognized what was at stake, and responded. Senators listened, and the bill failed to advance.

Our work is not done. We will continue to fight to protect Medicaid from any future threat, to ensure that the Children's Health Insurance Program is renewed, and to keep the gains we've made for children's coverage intact. We will advocate for bipartisan solutions that are most supportive to children and families. We will continue to serve as the leading voice for children in our nation's capital and across the country, and I am honored to stand alongside pediatricians like you who make this possible.

Senate leaders have announced that there may be a vote early next week to repeal the Affordable Care Act, without any accompanying legislation to replace it. The Academy will oppose this, and as we learn more about the vote and any other threats to children's coverage, we may be back in touch to ask you to once again speak up for your patients. Join our Key Contact program if you are not a member already by emailing [kids1st@aap.org](mailto:kids1st@aap.org), so you can be the first to receive these updates.

Today, I just wanted to pause and take an important moment to say thank you. We did it.

Sincerely,

Fernando Stein, MD, FAAP  
AAP President  
[@AAPPres](#)