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Congress of the United States
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES ON
ENERGY & WATER DEVELOPMENT,
& RELATED AGENCIES
DEFENSE

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Joe Lombardo
Governor
State of Nevada
State Capitol Building
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Lombardo,

Thank you for your letter to Chairmen Crapo and Guthrie regarding the harmful impacts Medicaid cuts would have on Nevadans. I'm glad you have joined our fight to protect Medicaid so we can ensure Nevadans have access to the health care services they need. With Republicans currently in control of the House and Senate, I ask you to please exercise your power as Governor to call on all my Republican colleagues – including Republican Speaker Mike Johnson – to join us in fighting these devastating Medicaid cuts.

We know cuts to Medicaid would exacerbate ongoing health care challenges in Nevada across the board – not just for 811,000 Nevadans on Medicaid, including nearly 40% of children in Nevada, more than half of nursing home residents, and one third of people with disabilities. As you mention in your letter, Medicaid is critical to Nevada's health care delivery. Proposed cuts to the program would disrupt care for Nevada families, directly impact reimbursements for providers, and incur significant costs for providers who are left supporting a larger uninsured population. Medicaid cuts would threaten the financial viability of Nevada's health care system and worsen Nevada's already dire doctor shortage.

As you are well aware, Nevada ranks 48th in the nation when it comes to primary care physicians per capita and all 17 of Nevada's counties are designated as health professional shortage areas. That is why I also invite you to endorse my bipartisan **Physicians for Underserved Areas Act** to join me in addressing this pressing issue in this dire moment. This bipartisan bill, which is led by Senator Jacky Rosen in the Senate, would update the graduate medical education (GME) slot process following a hospital closure to help ensure that areas experiencing severe provider shortages, like Nevada, receive more federally funded residency slots. Studies have shown that providers are more likely to continue practicing in the state where they complete their residency. This bill would be a critical step in bringing more doctors to Nevada's communities in need and addressing Nevada's severe provider shortages.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with you to fight against harmful Medicaid cuts, address Nevada's doctor shortage, and ensure that Nevadans continue to receive the services they need. If you have any questions or concerns about the items discussed in this letter, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susie Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "S" is large and loops around the "u", and the "L" is also large and loops around the "e".

Susie Lee

Member of Congress