

**To:** Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

**From:** Khoa Nguyen | Young Invincibles | MD/MBA Candidate at the University of Colorado

**Re:** **HB25-1213: Updates to Medicaid**

Mr. Chair, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony with you. My name is Khoa Nguyen. I am representing Young Invincibles as one of their Young Advocates. I am completing my MD at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and my MBA at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Short of applying to residency and obtaining my MD, I have fulfilled all curricular and licensure requirements expected thus far for the MD. I am here to encourage you all to **pass HB25-1213: Updates to Medicaid.**

As of March 2025, approximately 1,305,005 Coloradans were covered by Health First Colorado (Medicaid) and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+), at 1,213,952 and 91,053 individuals, respectively [1]. As a healthcare professional and passionate health policy advocate, I've seen firsthand the systemic challenges that providers and patients face when navigating Medicaid's administrative landscape. These obstacles disincentivize patients from obtaining the care that they need. Conjunctly, these obstacles discourage providers from accepting Medicaid patients as a consequence of barriers to timely delivery of care, fair reimbursement, and transparent oversight. The process is not perfect and it requires improvement.

Personally, I am reaching an age where I have to look for an individualized healthcare plan outside of my family's plan. While I initially considered registering for Medicaid, I ultimately went with an alternative insurance plan due to my own experiences with navigating the Medicaid administrative process for my patients, the foreseeable potential cuts to Medicaid by the federal government, and the fact that my own providers for my physical and mental well being do not accept Medicaid patients due to challenges with the program. I know that these sentiments do not solely belong to me. Many patients and other providers that I have talked to have shared similar concerns as well.

With the federal government making significant changes to Medicare and Medicaid, now is more important than ever that we make positive updates to our Medicaid program within the state of Colorado. Given Medicaid's expansive coverage of young, elderly, disabled, and other low-income individuals or families, we must ensure that Coloradans can transparently continue to receive necessary coverage. Likewise, those that accept Medicaid patients should be appropriately compensated for their services.

I am encouraged by HB25-1213's updates on:

1. Updating and including CPT codes and links to promote clarity and consistency in billing practices.
2. Enforcing timely provider payment to contracted providers from managed care organizations for services rendered.
3. Ensuring continuity of home and community-based services through HCPF to minimize disruptions to patients and beneficiaries.

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It should not have to be a significant challenge for patients and providers to navigate the administrative landscape of Medicaid services. I urge every committee member to **vote “yes” on HB25-1213**. Thank you for your consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Khoa Nguyen | MD/MBA Candidate

University of Colorado School of Medicine | University of Colorado Denver Business School

Youth Advocate | Young Invincibles

Junior Fellow | Global Council on Science and the Environment

#### References

1. [https://hcpf.colorado.gov/#:~:text=Enrollment%20Update,Health%20Plan%20Plus%20\(CHP+\).](https://hcpf.colorado.gov/#:~:text=Enrollment%20Update,Health%20Plan%20Plus%20(CHP+).)