

Talking Points

Final Rule Prohibiting Federal Medicaid Reimbursement for Transgender Youth Care

August 2026

On August 11, the Trump administration published a [final rule](#) prohibiting federal Medicaid funds from being used to provide medically necessary care to transgender youth under age 18 (and Children's Health Insurance Program [CHIP] funds under age 19).

This document provides talking points that can be used to describe the Trump administration's actions and its negative impact on transgender youth and their families.

General Talking Points

- Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of families and children nationwide. Today's Trump administration rule is a threat to the health of these children.
- Medical decisions belong to parents, families, and doctors—without politicians getting in the way. No one knows a child better than their parents and their doctor.
- These coercive tactics by the Trump administration are a shocking abuse of federal power. This is a wake up call for states to take aggressive actions to protect essential medical care and push back on this unprecedented federal overreach.
- Health care should be based on science, medical expertise, and the needs of children and families. But the Trump administration has repeatedly put politics above families and thrown science under the bus to advance its baseless theories. This rule is just another example of its baseless attacks on medical care for American families.
- We all want kids to be happy and healthy. And just like any other family, the parents of transgender youth should have the freedom to work with their doctors to get their child the care they need to stay healthy.
- Decades of research show that care for transgender youth is safe, effective, and beneficial, and every major U.S. medical and mental health association in the U.S. supports access to essential medical care for transgender youth.

For State Leaders

- We are examining the full range of options available to protect the constitutional rights of people in our state and ensure people can get the medical care they need. The federal government and state government have different roles. The Trump administration needs to get back in its lane and stop taking health care away from families and children in our state.
- We stand with the parents and families facing these baseless attacks on their health care by the Trump administration.
- We urge health care providers and hospitals to continue to fulfill their duties and obligations to protect the health of all patients.

Contact for More Information

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