

COALITION TO PRESERVE MEDICAID

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February 22, 2001

Honorable Paul E. Patton
Governor's Office
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Governor Patton,

Representatives of a number of organizations met yesterday to discuss the current and projected deficits in the Medicaid budget and the implications with regard to services and reimbursements. These organizations represent advocacy groups, consumers, and providers of Medicaid services.

Universally, great concern was expressed with regard to your administration's policy position that the deficits in the Medicaid budget must be addressed and rectified entirely within that program. In essence, you have devalued the provision of health care to our Commonwealth's neediest citizens. It is not possible for the Medicaid Department to balance its budget without doing harm!

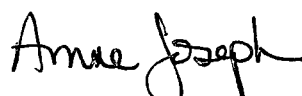
We are in the process of mobilizing the organizations listed on the enclosed sheet and others who are concerned about your administration's approach to solving the Medicaid deficits. We plan to take our concerns to the public through contacts with the press and other means. We will be commencing these activities within the next two weeks.


Before we take formal action, we wanted to give you the opportunity to meet with representatives of our coalition to discuss your administration's policy and planning – both in solving the Medicaid deficits in the short-term and in doing long-term Medicaid reform.

Your staff may contact any of the undersigned to schedule this meeting. Thank you for your consideration; we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


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