



July 30, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Finance Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Finance Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Reid, Senator McConnell, Chairman Baucus and Senator Grassley:

I write today on behalf of the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD). NASUAD represents the 56 officially designated state and territorial agencies on aging and disability programs. Many of our members serve as the operating agency in their states for Medicaid home and community based services (HCBS) waivers that serve seniors and individuals with disabilities.

We urge your support of the extension of the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The historic national recession has gravely impacted state economies and put additional pressure on already taxed public service programs. Medicaid is one of the states' largest expenditures, with low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities depending on it, especially during tough economic times. The Recovery Act's FMAP enhancement provided states with the ability to stabilize their programs without making cuts to vital services and supports for these individuals. Without the additional federal support for this vital federal-state program, many states will be forced to take drastic measures to balance their budgets and will cut services to our most vulnerable citizens.

We urge your swift passage of a six-month extension of enhanced FMAP. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa M. Carr, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at [lcarr@nasua.org](mailto:lcarr@nasua.org) or at 202-898-2578 ext 139.

Sincerely,

Martha Roherty  
Executive Director

Cc: Members of U.S. Senate

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Alabama

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