



August 9, 2010

Dear Representative:

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 Medicaid/education jobs package that will provide a six month extension of the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). 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 are disappointed that the much needed assistance this legislation will provide comes at the cost of reducing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), a program that is important for seniors and families in need. We hope that the SNAP cuts are restored after the FMAP extension is passed.

Thank you for your continued assistance in helping millions of people in need during this severe recession. We urge your swift passage of a six-month extension of an enhanced FMAP. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa M. Carr, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at [lcarr@nasuad.org](mailto:lcarr@nasuad.org) or at 202-898-2578 ext 139.

Sincerely,

Martha Roherty  
Executive Director

**President**  
Irene B. Collins  
Alabama

**Vice President**  
James Toews  
Oregon

**Treasurer**  
Charles D. Johnson  
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**Secretary**  
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