



Caregivers and the 2025 Reconciliation Act

The Moving Forward Coalition is committed to improving quality for the people who live in and depend upon nursing homes. This fact sheet outlines how the Act's Medicaid cuts may affect caregivers, both those currently supporting people in nursing homes and those who may need nursing home care in the future.

More than Numbers: Recognizing Caregivers

More than **63 million family caregivers** support people with daily tasks, and many provide nursing home-levels of care.ⁱ Cuts to Medicaid may force premature placement for some families, while also reducing the availability and quality of care for those already in nursing homes.ⁱⁱ

Implications of the Act: Centering Caregivers

Family caregivers play a vital role in supporting nursing home residents—serving as advocates, emotional anchors, and care coordinators. The Coalition is monitoring the impacts of the \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts and added administrative burdens on family caregivers as the Act is implemented, including:

- **Increasing Emotional and Financial Strain:** Caregivers may be forced to take on more responsibilities, which may lead to burnout and financial hardship.ⁱⁱⁱ Retroactive coverage changes add further financial pressures on caregivers.
- **Disrupting Stability and Access:** Nursing home closures and service reductions may require families to relocate residents or seek costly alternatives, increasing stress and uncertainty.^{iv}
- **Reducing Support for Family Caregivers:** Cuts to Medicaid-funded programs like respite care and caregiver training will leave families with fewer tools to manage complex care needs.^v
- **Adding Administrative Burdens:** New Medicaid work requirements may force caregivers to submit complex paperwork to maintain coverage, risking loss of benefits if deadlines or documentation are missed.

Our Response: Empowering Caregivers

The Moving Forward Coalition is committed to ensuring that caregivers inform nursing home policies and programs. We want to hear directly from you about the impact of the 2025 Reconciliation Act on caregivers —your voice matters. Whether you write your story or share a video, your experience can help protect and improve care for residents across the country. Please submit your story or video [here](#).

Resources: Supporting Caregivers

If you or someone you know is a caregiver for a nursing home resident, please consider the following resources:

Family Councils

Family Councils give relatives a voice in nursing home decisions. Members meet to share concerns, build community, and advocate for better care. You can learn more from the [Family Council Center](#), which is led by the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care.

Support

The federal government funds several programs, including those featured in the [National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers](#), to support caregivers. You can find more information [here](#).

Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Ombudsmen are trained advocates who help resolve issues between residents, families, and nursing homes. You can find your state's program [here](#).

Medicaid Enrollment Assistance

Navigating Medicaid applications can be complex, especially during transitions to nursing home care. To receive guidance, you can find more information [here](#).

ⁱ Administration for Community Living. (2022). *National strategy to support family caregivers*. Retrieved from [https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/RAISE_SGRG/NatlStrategyToSupportFamilyCaregivers-2.pdf]

ⁱⁱ Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. (2025). *The Potential Impacts of Cuts to Medicaid*. Retrieved from [https://www.jhsph.edu/news/stories/2025/the-potential-impacts-of-cuts-to-medicaid.html]

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid*.

^{iv} *Ibid.*

^v *Ibid.*