

The Enrollment Coalition

AN ALLIANCE CONVENED BY LEAVITT PARTNERS

March 23, 2021

Patty Murray
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor
& Pensions

Richard Burr
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor
& Pensions

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Ranking Member Burr,

The Enrollment Coalition is a multi-sector group of health care stakeholders which came together in Fall 2020 to collaborate on identifying, developing, and advancing actionable policy recommendations for federal policymakers. Our focus is aimed at improving enrollment data, systems, and processes to enable more uninsured Americans under age 65 to enroll into existing health coverage plans and programs for which they are eligible-but-not-enrolled.

Through our members, the Coalition brings together technical expertise, experience, regulatory knowledge, and public policy understanding to achieve these objectives. Our Coalition is comprised of health care providers, health plans, patient and consumer groups, health insurance experts, employers, and technology solution organizations.

The COVID-19 public health emergency and related economic disruption has focused fresh attention on longstanding challenges millions of Americans face in accessing the health care system. Challenges are exacerbated by poverty, racial and ethnic inequities, health disparities, socio-economic differences, and social determinants of health. Additionally, it is increasingly understood that the unprecedented number of Americans who have lost their health coverage or are enrolling in a new source of coverage as a result of the pandemic, face unique hurdles and challenges to receiving equitable access and care.

The effects of a lack of health coverage on the physical, mental, social, and economic well-being of individuals and families are well established: less access to and use of preventative care, barriers accessing high-quality health care, high out of pocket costs, delays in accessing care, and worse health outcomes.

Despite these challenges stemming from lack of health insurance, research indicates most uninsured individuals are eligible for, but not enrolled in, a current health care plan or program—the majority of which offer financial assistance that makes coverage more affordable. According to analysis by the Congressional Budget Office published in September 2020, among the 31.5 million people estimated to be uninsured in 2021, 65 percent, or 20.5 million people, are eligible for but not enrolled in coverage for which financial assistance is available.

We believe there clearly is a need for short- and long-term strategies to increase enrollment in health coverage, with special attention on identifying actionable policies, strategies, tools, and data improvements that can help individuals eligible for coverage to successfully enroll in coverage. The Enrollment Coalition’s mission is to identify, develop, and advance policies that will help ensure such persons have the health coverage they need, during this unprecedented public health emergency and beyond.

The Enrollment Coalition believes that collaboration amongst key stakeholders can help shape and support enrollment policies and processes that benefit consumers and patients. As work in the new Congress gets underway, the Enrollment Coalition welcomes the opportunity to serve as a resource to you on these important issues on an ongoing basis.

Sincerely,

The Enrollment Coalition

Alliance of Community Health Plans
Alluma
American Heart Association
Amputee Coalition
Association for Community Affiliated Plans
Benefits Data Trust
Centene Corporation
Community Catalyst
Families USA
Health Care Service Corporation
Healthcare Leadership Council
March of Dimes

cc: Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee
Members

