Pennsylvania Chapter

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Medicaid and CHIP have been a critical lifeline of coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic, with protections from the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act disallowing states from removing any new enrollees while the Public Health Emergency (PHE) is in place. When the PHE ends, states will begin redeterminations of eligibility and thousands of Pennsylvanians, many of them children, risk losing coverage.

How Pennsylvania Can Prepare for the End of the Public Health Emergency?

Actions PA Legislators can take to protect Medicaid & CHIP recipients from disenrollment

PA AAP urges PA legislators to take the following steps to help prevent mass disenrollment from Medicaid & CHIP:

Implement a robust, multichannel awareness campaign to ensure enrollees update their contact info

Assist with coverage transitions, informing enrollees of alternative coverage options



Utilize existing databases, i.e. USPS, SNAP & TANF, to confirm enrollee information



Extend the redetermination timeline from 6 to 12 months

Request states to attempt to contact enrollees twice through two modalities, reporting disenrollment actions taken

Effects of Mass Loss in Coverage



Of PA's 1.2 million & 151,000 children enrolled in Medicaid & CHIP, respectively, an

estimated **346,000**

children risk coverage termination, affecting all 67 counties in the Commonwealth

Without coverage, children are at risk of the following:

- Missed well-child visits, dental, vision & hearing checks
- Inadequate food transitions & threat of obesity
- Lack of mental health support