Potential subjects: Keep Medicaid Strong for Ohio’s Kids; Ohio’s Kids Depend on Medicaid

Dear (Senator or Representative)

I am writing today as your constituent, a supporter of Nationwide Children’s Hospital, and an advocate for children’s health. Approximately 53 percent of Nationwide Children Hospital’s patients are covered by Medicaid, and Medicaid is the single largest insurer of children across the country. The program plays a critical role in improving health outcomes for kids.

Congress is poised to make important decisions about the future of Medicaid. I respectfully ask that you keep the program strong for children and ensure that any changes do not compromise children’s coverage or access to care.

As Steve Allen, MD, the CEO of Nationwide Children’s, wrote in a recent edition of The Hill, children account for a relatively small percentage of the country’s health care spending, but make up more than half of the Medicaid program. Any cut to Medicaid will disproportionately impact them. Ohio alone has approximately 1.2 million children enrolled in Medicaid.

Those children have access to essential health benefits such as vaccines, mental health assessments and annual well visits. Children covered by Medicaid – compared to those who are uninsured – go on to enjoy better health, lower rates of mortality and higher educational and economic outcomes as they become adults.

When the time comes, please use your voice and vote for children’s health.

Sincerely,