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Office of the International President

June 27, 2025

The Honorable Eric Schmitt
United States Senate
404 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senator Schmitt:

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM Union), **I write today to urge you to reject the proposed cuts to Medicaid in the reconciliation package (H.R. 1) that threatens access to healthcare coverage for Missourians and could shutter dozens of rural hospitals in your state.**

The negative impacts of this legislation are very concerning to the IAM, which represents thousands of workers in Missouri. This includes IAM-represented workers at places such as the Boeing Defense facility in St. Louis, Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies (FM&T) in Kansas City, and the Olin-Winchester Lake City Army Ammunition Plant (LCAAP) in Independence.

The IAM prides itself on negotiating good collective bargaining agreements that provide our hard-working members with benefits like great healthcare coverage. These healthcare benefits, however, are threatened by the lack of access to healthcare as hospitals could be forced to close, slash services, or reduce staffing because of reduced Medicaid funds in the reconciliation package.

In Missouri alone, a total of 21 hospitals have closed since 2014, and another 25 are currently at risk of closing because of the proposed legislation, according to published reports.

The reconciliation package proposes new work requirements for Medicaid recipients and slashes federal funding. It's projected that 103,929 people in Missouri will lose Medicaid coverage due to this legislation.

It is also estimated that rural providers could lose up to 21 cents of every Medicaid dollar under this reconciliation package. That could be a major strain on state budgets as they attempt to bridge the gap. Missouri receives about \$12.7 billion in federal dollars from the program, and two-thirds of the state's Medicaid budget comes from the federal payout.

Again – I urge you to protect the right to healthcare and reject the proposed Medicaid cuts in the reconciliation package.

Sincerely,

Brian Bryant
IAM International President