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Office of the International President

June 27, 2025

The Honorable Thom Tillis
United States Senate
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senator Tillis:

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 and could shutter some of the rural hospitals in your state.**

The negative impacts of this legislation are very concerning to the IAM, which represents thousands of workers in North Carolina. This includes workers at Spirit AeroSystems in Kinston, in addition to airline workers at Charlotte Douglas International Airport and Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

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 a lack of access to healthcare as hospitals could be forced to close, cut services of lay off workers because of reduced Medicaid funds in the reconciliation package.

The cuts will strain the state's health care infrastructure, especially in rural areas where clinics, nursing facilities, and hospitals rely heavily on Medicaid funding to remain operational. These financial losses will place a strain on state budgets as they attempt to bridge the gap.

In North Carolina alone, five rural hospitals are at risk of closing because of proposed legislation, according to published reports.

The reconciliation package proposes new work requirements for Medicaid recipients and slashes federal funding. It's projected that 271,928 people in North Carolina will lose Medicaid coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Brian Bryant
IAM International President