



OUR ASK

Direct Primary Care LEGISLATION

ACCESS TO DPC FOR PEOPLE IN MEDICAID

Please Co-Sponsor H.R. 3836 / S. 5432 and tell Senate leadership to pass this important primary care reform today!

The bipartisan Medicaid Primary Care Improvement Act passed the Full House of Representatives unanimously on **March 5, 2024**.

HELP ALL AMERICANS ACCESS A PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN

Americans with lower incomes have always had a hard time finding a primary care doctor. CDC data shows **Medicaid beneficiaries visit emergency rooms more frequently than individuals with private coverage, and even more than the uninsured**. Given post-pandemic shortages, DPC arrangements can provide primary care medical services in any setting—in the clinic or using virtual care. A relationship with a primary care physician, who can spend time with a patient to diagnose both physiological and behavioral issues, can be life changing; In fact, access to good primary care can be a key to ending long standing cycles of poverty in some cases. A relationship with a DPC physician, paired with Medicaid coverage for issues outside of primary care can help low income individuals manage their care in a humane way that can improve health outcomes. A 2020 Milliman Study for the Society of Actuaries shows that employers who offer DPC as a part of a health benefit had almost 20% lower claim costs than employees who used health insurance without DPC. Utilizing DPC in Medicaid will not only improve care for underserved patients, it has the potential to reduce costs for states by keeping beneficiaries needing routine care out of critical access facilities and emergency rooms.

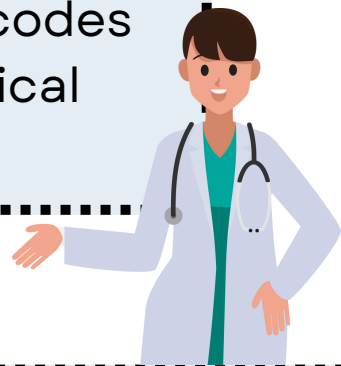
WHY PATIENTS LOVE DPC

Patients get access to a **physician of their choice** who knows their name and history without spending an entire visit looking at a computer screen to understand why they are here.

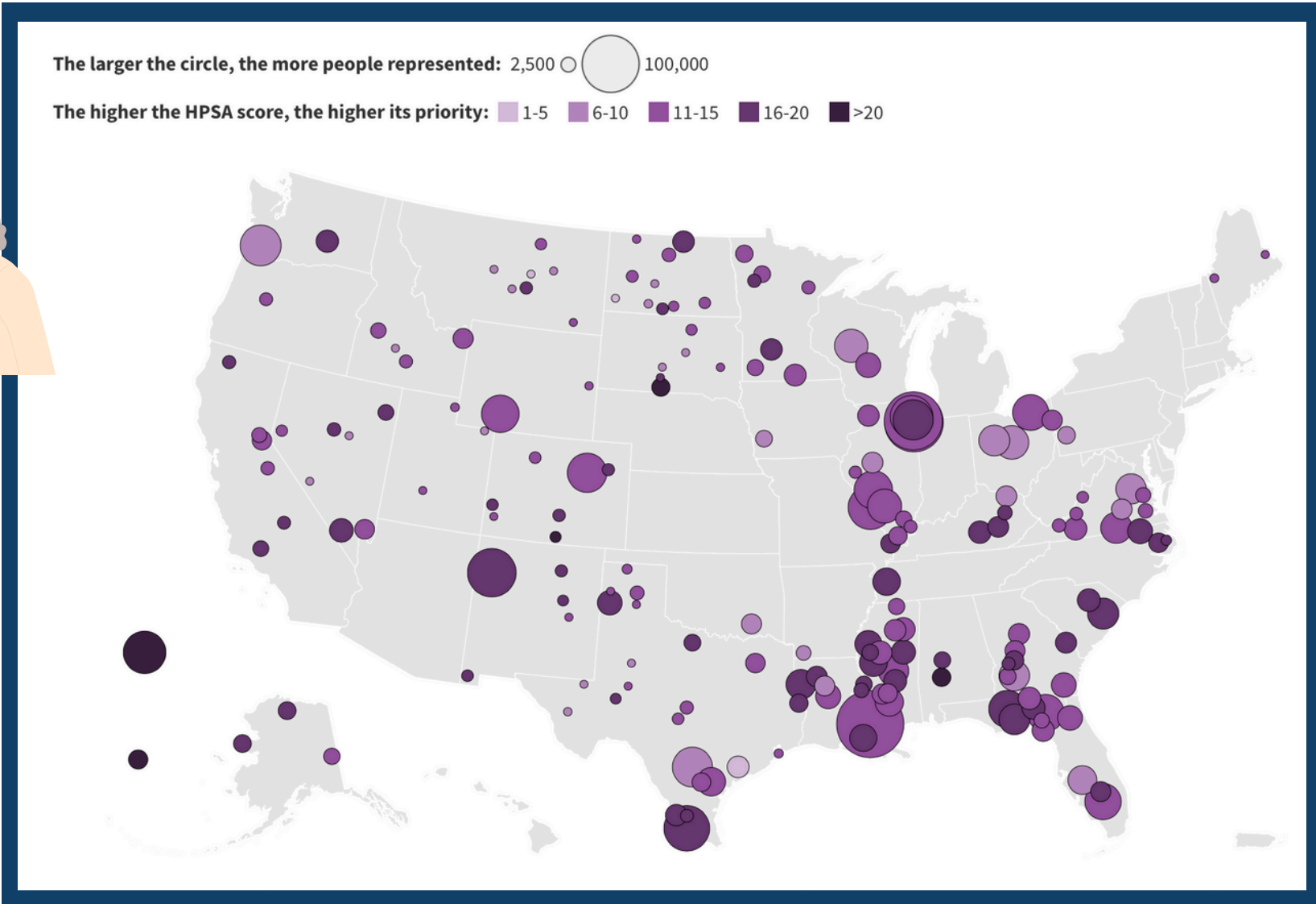


WHY DOCTORS LOVE DPC

Doctors get to practice **medicine the way they were trained** without having to memorize 10,969 billing codes that describe the medical procedures.



A Kaiser Family Foundation study shows that large parts of the United States have had a shortage of primary care physicians since before 1984. These primary care health professional shortage areas (HPSA) are growing rapidly in the post-pandemic era.



THE MEDICAID PRIMARY CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT ALLOWS COLLABORATION ON DPC ACCESS FOR THOSE IN MEDICAID

H.R. 3836 / S. 5432, the Medicaid Primary Care Improvement Act, clarifies that states can provide DPC primary care services to Medicaid beneficiaries without a federal waiver from CMS. **Allows states, DPC providers and CMS to collaborate on the best way to apply a DPC arrangement in each state.**

- **Bipartisan bill** - Reps. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Kim Schrier, MD (D-WA) are the lead House sponsors, Senators Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) and Mark Kelly (D-AZ) are the Senate sponsors
- **Passed the full House by voice vote March 28-0 on July 13, 2023** - Pending in the Senate.