



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Obama Should Reject Iowa Medicaid Waiver Request: States Own Data Shows Need for Transportation**

The Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA), [joined by other groups](#) working on behalf of Medicaid patients, implores the Obama Administration to reject a request by the state of Iowa to extend the elimination of transportation to medical services for new, Medicaid patients.

The administration, earlier this year, allowed Iowa to drop the benefit in order to test the state's theory that lacking non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) would not prohibit access to care. Iowa's own data, however, proves this theory wrong. Without a transportation benefit as many as 20 percent of new beneficiaries in Iowa were unable to see their doctor because they lacked transportation; this according to a [survey](#) performed by the University of Iowa.

Nationally, about 10 percent of traditional Medicaid patients rely on Medicaid to pay for transportation demonstrating that Iowa's new enrollees are just as likely as regular Medicaid patients to need NEMT. Even with this data in-hand, the state is pressing forward with their request to extend the elimination of transportation benefits for an additional 18 months.

CTAA is a national, nonprofit membership association of 4,500 organizations and individuals committed to mobility for all Americans — as well as ensuring access to quality health care. For more information contact Dale Marsico at [marsico@ctaa.org](mailto:marsico@ctaa.org) or Marsha Simon at [msimon@mjsimonandcompany.com](mailto:msimon@mjsimonandcompany.com).

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