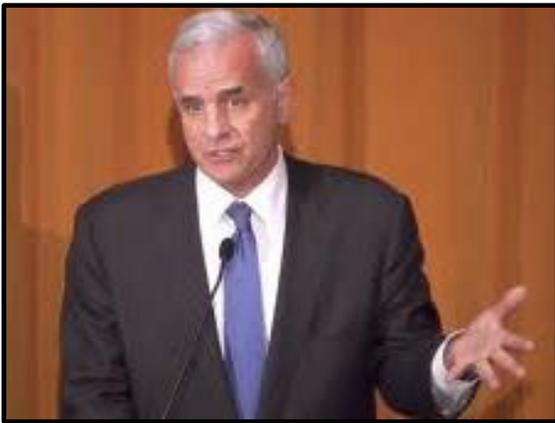


➤ *Stalemate at the State Capitol Continues*



Governor Dayton (photo) has been busy with his veto pen, vetoing, all the budget bills this past week that came across his desk. The Governor is dissatisfied with the lack of funding for his priorities and does not like that so many policy items are embedded in the budget bills. We are limited in what we can do at this point, with all discussions between him and state legislative leaders being held behind closed doors. However, responding to the [Action Alert](#) we sent this week will let the Governor and legislators know we are still interested in passing of our legislative priorities. Unless a miracle happens, we are headed to special session. If you haven't responded to our alert yet, [please do so now](#), and stay tuned for future developments.

➤ *Concerns Grow About Senate AHCA Bill*



The information we had received until now was that the American Health Care Act (AHCA), which passed the U.S. House on May 4th, would be substantially changed by the U.S. Senate. New information from The Arc of the U.S. has indicated that might not be the case. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has assembled 12 of his colleagues to work on their bill. The Arc U.S. staff said the discussion so far on the Medicaid portion of the bill is worrisome. There have been no proposals yet to reduce the more than \$800 billion cut in Medicaid from the House bill. In addition, there is discussion of making the per capita caps even tighter and the size of the Medicaid cut greater.

The Arc U.S. said there is an urgent need to make senators aware of the importance of long-term services and supports to people with disabilities and their families. They shared with us [a fact sheet published by the national disability coalition](#) they belong to, as well as [a fact sheet they released](#) this week; both detail the harm the AHCA would do to Medicaid.

Our two U.S. Senators, Al Franken and Amy Klobuchar, both oppose the House bill and attempts to repeal the ACA. When a group of advocates from The Arc and other agencies visited Sen. Klobuchar's office during the Disability Policy Seminar back in March, Susan Nanney, the senator's aide they visited with, encouraged them to gather more stories to support the senator's advocacy on behalf of Medicaid. Help Sen. Klobuchar be a champion on Medicaid; [e-mail your story to Susan Nanney](#), and e-mail a copy to [Mike Gude](#) at our office.

Senator Franken has asked Minnesotans to share their stories with his office about the how Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicaid, and Medicare have benefitted them, and how repeal of the ACA and cuts to

Medicaid and Medicare will hurt them. E-mail your story to SaveMyCoverage@franken.senate.gov; send a copy to Mike Gude, too. Also, stay tuned for more action alerts on efforts to repeal the ACA and dismantle Medicaid.

➤ ***Conversations on “This Is Medicaid”***

To act on the ongoing threats to Medicaid, agencies who advocate for and/or provide services to Medicaid recipients, including The Arc Minnesota, have come together to form a coalition to educate and engage the public to take action to protect this vital program. The first coalition activity is a series of simultaneous community conversations in three communities on May 31st entitled “This Is Medicaid.” Each event will run from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

These events will bring together members of the general public and of the stakeholder groups, where they will receive more information about the impact of possible cuts to the program, share personal stories about how Medicaid benefits them, and prepare to engage in ongoing advocacy on this issue. We invite you to attend an event in one of the following communities:

- St. Cloud -- Great River Regional Library; [sign up here](#).
- Bloomington - St. Luke’s Lutheran Church; [sign up here](#).
- Northfield - St. John’s Lutheran Church; [sign up here](#).

Please also let The Arc know that you are attending one of these events by filling out this brief [form](#).

➤ ***Honoring Bud and Others at MDLC***



Bud Rosenfield has been one of many strong advocates serving the Minnesota Disability Law Center, a program of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid. We recognized him for that advocacy with the Andrew R. Richardson Advocacy Award in 2004, and he has continued that strong advocacy with individuals and in court deliberations since then. Bud’s work is just one of many reasons that we are honoring MDLC at our Public Policy Recognition Event on May 25th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville. The deadline for signing up for is Sunday, May 21st. You can reserve your seats for this celebration by going to the [event registration page](#).

➤ ***MN-CCD Holds Legislative Wrap-Up on May 23***



**MINNESOTA
CONSORTIUM FOR
CITIZENS WITH
DISABILITIES**

The Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (MN-CCD) is holding its 2017 Legislative Session Wrap-Up on Tuesday, May 23rd, at the Dept. of Transportation Building Cafeteria, 395 John Ireland Blvd, in Saint Paul. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The consortium will honor 2017 All Star Advocates and a state legislator. Anne Henry from the Minnesota Disability Law Center and I will receive recognition as well. I am grateful for this recognition and honored to have been a part of MN-CCD’s advocacy activities for the past decade. MN-CCD will provide attendees vouchers to purchase breakfast. Please RSVP to Jo Erbes at jo@mncdd.org with the number of people who will attend with you.

➤ ***DHS Info on Impact of HCBS Rule Extension***

As mentioned in our May 12, 2017 *Public Policy Update*, the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released an [informational bulletin](#) announcing that states have until March 2022 (three additional years) to bring their systems into compliance with the HCBS settings requirements. The Minnesota Department of Human Services posted more information [on its website](#) about what this extension means for our state.