

**By Marc A. Levin and Khalil A. Cumberbatch**

*People leaving our jails and prisons are handcuffed by a lack of resources and a stigma that makes it hard to find gainful employment and stable housing. There is no public policy panacea for these challenges, but Congress is now weighing a prescription for ensuring formerly incarcerated people are healthy enough to make the most of their freedom.*

*Upon incarceration, individuals lose federal health benefits under programs such as Medicaid. Pending bipartisan legislation known as the [Medicaid Reentry Act](#) would promote continuity of care by ensuring that those eligible for coverage can begin to receive health benefits up to 30 days prior to release.*

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