



## **“BLOCK GRANT” COMMENTS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### ***What is the “block grant”? How does it affect me?***

The “block grant” is shorthand for a change to the way TennCare works. This block grant would last for ten years. It caps future federal dollars to TennCare’s costs. What does that mean? It means that over time there will be a decrease in TennCare benefits. This block grant also continues many of the bad features of TennCare: the continuation of managed care and, for lots of people, no retroactive coverage. Have you had problems with your MCO? Are you worried about benefits cuts? The “block grant” will affect you.

### ***What is a comment?***

A comment is a written statement that a person can give to explain their views of a government policy. When the government opens a comment period, as it has done on this issue, that means the government is specifically asking people to weigh in. It means they are listening to what you will say.

### ***Why does it matter if I comment on the “block grant?”***

It matters because TennCare and the “block grant” have many negative features that harm Tennesseans and their families. The federal government is considering changing some of those negative features. Whether it changes them, or not, depends in part on the comments that Tennesseans give. The federal government wants to hear from you. What you say will help them decide what happens to TennCare. The new administration wants to use your comments to help it decide what to do. This is your chance to have your voice heard if there are features of TennCare or the “block grant” that have hurt you or could hurt you or your family.

### ***How do I submit a comment?***

It’s easy! Comments do not have to be written formally, or in any special format. You can write a lot, or a little. You can tell your personal story, or discuss the problems such as limits on medications, retroactive coverage, your MCO, or other policy details. It is your space to say what you want, and how you want to say it.

There is an online form that you can fill in at:

[https://1115publiccomments.medicaid.gov/jfe/form/SV\\_9zWXfvSDSRtLxAy](https://1115publiccomments.medicaid.gov/jfe/form/SV_9zWXfvSDSRtLxAy)

Would you like some help getting your thoughts together and formatting your comment? Please visit us at: <https://www.tnjustice.org/stoptheblock/>

### ***Do I have to include my address? My name? Or any other information?***

No. The more you can say about your own experience, the better, but you do not have to give any of that information.

