Medicaid saves lives

AARP thanks the supporters and co-sponsors of the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008, which passed April 23 in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill would prevent massive increases in costs for people on Medicaid by stopiping harmful cuts proposed by the Bush administration.

The vote was a victory for all Neibraskans who rely on Medicaid as the safety net of our health care system. With 47 million Americans already uninsured, our country and our state cannot afford to make it any harder for our most vulnerable to pay for their health care.

AARP thanks U.S. Rep. Lee Terry, R-Neb., a co-sponsor, and Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, R-Neb., for their votes in support of the legislation.

While AARP supports smart poliicies to stop fraud, waste and abuse in Medicaid, the cuts proposed by the Bush administration threaten the initegrity of the program and shift unireasonable costs to people using Mediicaid and to the states.

Connie Benjamin, *Lincoln*
Nebraska AARP director