



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON D.C. - The National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) and the Treatment Access Expansion Project (TAEP) are hosting a Congressional Briefing for the Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA) (H.R. 1616 / S. 833). **Speakers include the Honorable Eliot Engel (D-NY) and the Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), among others.**

ETHA gives states the option of readily amending their Medicaid eligibility requirements to extend coverage to pre-disabled poor and low-income people living with HIV. ETHA addresses a cruel irony in the current Medicaid system—that under current Medicaid rules, people must become disabled by AIDS before they can receive access to Medicaid-provided care that could have prevented them from becoming so ill in the first place. This important legislation is an essential component of health care reform efforts to ensure that low-income people living with HIV qualify for Medicaid coverage earlier in the course of their disease.

Please join us for the briefing on this important bill.

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