

## **Lutheran Services in America (LSA)**

*Protect public entitlement programs*

**Organization Description:** LSA is an alliance of national Lutheran church bodies and their health and human service organizations. LSA has more than 300 members and advocates for public policies on behalf of these organizations and the people they serve. LSA is particularly interested in shaping health and human service policy on the national level and assists its members with advocacy at the national, state and local levels. LSA activities include direct lobbying with members of Congress, the White House, and other parts of the Administration. LSA provides information to members on health and human service legislation and regulations and the impact any changes in law could have on the provision of services to the people they serve. LSA works closely with other national faith-based organizations, community organizations, national coalitions, and the media.

**Proposal Description:** Lutheran Services in America does not have a comprehensive health reform proposal but instead lists a series of general public policy categories for which they will advocate.

- **Coverage:** LSA supports Medicaid reforms that do not adversely affect low income individuals in need of Medicaid-funded services. It also supports continuing child welfare programs as entitlement programs. It supports providing resources to relative caregivers so that children may be placed with them when parents are no longer able to care for them.
- **Cost:** LSA opposes fiscal policies that reduce the size of the federal deficit and/or control spending growth by only targeting beneficiaries of domestic discretionary and entitlement programs, which include those in most need of those services.

**Proposal Date:** 2006

*Source: LSA 2006 Public Policy Priorities,*

[www.lutherservices.org/Documents/2006%20Public%20Policy%20Priority%20list.Final.pdf](http://www.lutherservices.org/Documents/2006%20Public%20Policy%20Priority%20list.Final.pdf)