

July 12, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Leader Pelosi:

The undersigned national and state organizations, representing health care consumers and patients, providers, and other stakeholders, are writing to urge Congress to oppose renewed efforts to roll back the expansion in coverage and consumer protections under the Affordable Care Act.

Such a proposal was debuted by the Heritage Foundation and other conservative thought leaders last month. Their proposal would eliminate Medicaid expansion and marketplace subsidies that help moderate-income people afford individual market coverage, replacing them with a flawed and underfunded block grant to states. It would also severely weaken protections for people with pre-existing health conditions. While details are limited, the Congressional Budget Office concluded that the “Graham-Cassidy” legislation upon which this proposal is based would cause millions of people to lose coverage, while independent experts concluded it would leave almost one in five Americans uninsured – causing more than 20 million to lose coverage. **The undersigned organizations urge Congress in the strongest possible terms to reject this and similar proposals.**

The American people have spoken clearly on this issue. In poll after poll, the ACA has been found to be broadly popular.¹ More strikingly, efforts to repeal and replace the ACA have been incredibly unpopular. A poll taken in September 2017 found that just 20 percent of Americans supported the Graham-Cassidy legislation upon which this proposal is based.² A full 52 percent of Americans opposed the proposal. Further, Congress has spoken on this issue. Last July, the Senate rejected four separate ACA repeal bills, including bills with broadly similar provisions to those included in this new proposal.

The ACA was enacted more than eight years ago. In that time, the American people have come to expect a health system in which they are protected from catastrophic costs, have access to needed services, and where there is a strong and stable Medicaid program for those who need it most. **We urge Congress to work together to find real solutions to the continued problems in our health care systems and reject proposals like the one released last month that would only undermine the progress we have made.**

¹ <https://www.kff.org/interactive/kaiser-health-tracking-poll-the-publics-views-on-the-aca/#?response=Favorable-Unfavorable&aRange=twoYear>

² <http://files.kff.org/attachment/Interactive-Public-Opinion-on-ACA-Replacement-Plans>

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Families USA
1,000 Days
ADAP Advocacy Association
AFL-CIO
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Art Therapy Association
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association on Health and Disability
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Dance Therapy Association
American Diabetes Association
American Federation of Teachers
American Medical Student Association (AMSA)
American Muslim Health Professionals
American Nurses Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Asian Americans Advancing Justice
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
Autism Society
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Blue Future
Center for Autism and Related Disorders
Center for Community Change Action
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Popular Democracy Action
Center for Public Representation
Center for Reproductive Rights
Children's Defense Fund
CLASP
Coalition on Human Needs
Communications Workers of America
Community Access National Network (CANN)
Community Catalyst
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance

Doctors for America
Eating Disorders Coalition
Epilepsy Foundation
Every Child Matters
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
Health Care for America Now
Housing Works
Justice in Aging
Lung Cancer Alliance
Main Street Alliance
NAACP
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Advocates for Pregnant Women
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Social Workers
National Black Women's HIV/AIDS Network, Inc.
National Center for Transgender Equality
National Coalition for Latinx with Disabilities
National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Consumers League
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Council of Jewish Women
National Dental Association, Inc
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Law Program
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
National LGBTQ Task Force
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Physicians Alliance
National WIC Association
National Women's Health Network
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
NMAC
Not Dead Yet
Our Mother's Voice
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Partners In Care Foundation
Pathways for Rare and Orphan Studies
People's Action Institute
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Protect Our Care

Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We Need
Religious Institute
Residential Eating Disorders Consortium
School Social Work Association of America
School-Based Health Alliance
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership
Society of General Internal Medicine
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
The AIDS Institute
The Arc of the United States
The Children's Dental Health Project
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Treatment Communities of America
Union for Reform Judaism
United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
Young Invincibles

State-Based Organizations

Alaska

Alaska Children's Trust

Arkansas

Arkansas Community Organizations

California

Alzheimer's Los Angeles
Area Agency on Aging
California Children's Hospital Association
California Dental Association
California Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition
California Food Policy Advocates
California School-Based Health Alliance
California WIC Association
California-Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Children Now
Children's Defense Fund - California
Community Health Councils
Disability Rights California
East Bay Leadership Council
Equality California
Family Voices of California
Health Access California
Health Center Partners of Southern California
Healthy House Within a MATCH Coalition

Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Los Angeles LGBT Center
Marin Center for Independent Living
Maternal and Child Health Access
Menorah Housing Foundation
Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County, Inc.
The Children's Partnership
The Greenlining Institute
The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
UDW/AFSCME Local 3930
United Ways of California
Western Center on Law & Poverty

Connecticut

Protect Our Care CT
Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut

Florida

Catalyst Miami
Health Council of South Florida
Organize Florida

Illinois

Action for a Better Tomorrow
Citizen Action/Illinois
EverThrive Illinois
Indivisible Illinois

Indiana

Faith in Indiana

Iowa

Indivisible Jackson County

Kentucky

Kentucky Voices for Health

Maine

Consumers for Affordable Health Care - Maine

Maryland

Addiction Connections Resource
Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative

Massachusetts

Greater Boston Legal Services
Massachusetts Advocates for Nursing Home Reform

Michigan

Michigan Disability Rights Coalition
Michigan League for Public Policy

Minnesota

ISAIAH - MN

Nebraska

Nebraska Appleseed

Nevada

Nevada Policy Practice Academy

New Hampshire

Rights & Democracy
State of New Hampshire Long Term Care Ombudsman

New Jersey

New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
New Jersey Citizen Action

New Mexico

Southwest Women's Law Center

New York

Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY
Health Care For All New York
Metro New York Health Care for All
Move Forward Staten Island
New York Immigration Coalition
New York State Nurses Association
New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage

North Carolina

Action NC
Carolina Jews for Justice
Coalition for Health Care of North Carolina
Equality North Carolina
NC NAACP Health Care Committee
North Carolina Council of Churches
North Carolina League of Women Voters
Pisgah Legal Services
Working America NC

Ohio

Physicians Action Network
ProgressOhio
The Ohio Women's Public Policy Network

Toledoans United for Social Action
Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio
Valley Voices United for Change

Oregon

NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon Foundation
One in Four Chronic Health

Pennsylvania

Consumer Health Coalition
Mental Health Partnerships
Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Pennsylvania Health Access Network

Tennessee

Hamilton County Indivisible
Tennessee Health Care Campaign

Utah

Utah Health Policy Project

Washington

Resident Councils of Washington

West Virginia

WV Citizen Action Group

Wisconsin

Kids Forward
Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health
Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice
Wisconsin Family Ties
Wisconsin Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals