

June XX, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
United States Capitol Building, Room S-230
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell:

We write to express our serious concerns regarding recent reports suggesting that the Senate's efforts to produce a reconciliation bill repealing the Affordable Care Act are headed in a direction that may jeopardize final passage in the House of Representatives.

For seven years, we have shared a common goal of repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act. The ACA has been plagued by failures and dysfunction, and resulted in lost coverage, higher premiums, and limited choice of insurance plans and medical providers for most American families.

The policy ultimately developed by the House and encapsulated in H.R. 1628, the American Health Care Act, substantially evolved between the leak of a working draft in early February and May 10, when the bill narrowly passed the House by a vote of 217-213. During this time, Members engaged in vigorous and robust debate and individually weighed trade-offs, while carefully crafting policy solutions to meet the parameters of Senate guidance regarding the restrictive framework of the reconciliation process. Including income caps for tax credits, improvements for federally-supported high-risk pools, and ensuring states can implement work requirements for able-bodied adults on Medicaid were just some of the policies added to the AHCA during our thorough and deliberate process.

We believe four components of the American Health Care Act are particularly crucial to its ability to continue to garner a passing majority in the House. First, the bill would immediately prohibit new states from receiving an enhanced federal share for expanding Medicaid, and for states that have already adopted Medicaid expansion, would phase out the enhanced federal share by 2020. The bill would also, through an amendment introduced by Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-NJ), allow states to waive certain onerous requirements imposed by the ACA in order to achieve state goals of lower premiums, stable insurance markets, increased enrollment, and improved choice of insurance plans. Third, the bill repeals the new taxes created by the ACA in the most expeditious manner possible. Finally, living up to an important conservative commitment to promote life and protect the unborn, the bill would prevent federal

funding for one year for large abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, and the bill's refundable tax credits could not be used to federally fund abortions.

We eagerly await the day when we can fulfill our promise to the American people and send legislation to the president's desk repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act. As the Senate continues its deliberative process, we urge you to carefully evaluate the American Health Care Act and consider the important role these specific policies played in building consensus in the House.

Sincerely,
