

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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.**

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

<sup>2</sup> <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