

Updated Action Alert #26 - Senate Pulls Current Healthcare Bill - Will Move Forward on Repeal Only

July 18, 2017

Last night Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell announced the Republican's healthcare proposal would not be successful after two additional Senators expressed their opposition so he is not going forward with the bill. Instead, the Majority Leader will move forward with a "repeal-only approach" of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), without a replacement.

Contacts with Senators Cassidy and Kennedy should continue. However, your message should focus on the importance of the ACA to people with disabilities, many hardworking direct support workers who gained health insurance through Medicaid expansion, and others you know who have benefited from the ACA.

Need help on what to say? Below are some examples individuals with disabilities and families have shared with us. Pick the one(s) that apply to you or someone you know:

- I have a pre-existing condition and currently cannot be denied coverage and benefits because of the ACA. I don't want to lose this benefit.
- I currently do not have to worry about extraordinary healthcare costs due to the ban on annual or lifetime caps because of the ACA. I don't want to lose this benefit.
- I have health coverage through Medicaid Expansion and don't want to lose this health care.
- My Direct Support Workers have health coverage from Medicaid Expansion because of the ACA. This keeps them healthy and able to come to work for me or my child. I don't want them to lose their health care.
- My insurance now covers my mental health services where it didn't before the ACA. I don't want to lose this coverage.

Add any other opinion you have about the proposal to repeal the ACA.

Contacts must be made Friday, July 21st.

The REPEAL-ONLY vote is expected next week, so contacts must be made by Sunday, July 23rd.

Suggested Ways To Take Action

- Send emails through the Senators' websites
- Call and leave a message at their D.C. or LA offices
- Briefly post why the ACA or Medicaid Expansion is important to you on their Facebook pages - include a picture of yourself or child if possible
- Shoot a 90 second video stating why the ACA or Medicaid Expansion is important to you/your family and post on their Facebook page or Tweet to them
- Try and get an appointment with their staff to share why the ACA or Medicaid Expansionis important to you/your family at one of their in-state offices. If you can't get an appointment, drop by their office and leave a written note and picture (if possible).

Senator Bill Cassidy

Click <u>here</u> for LA and Washington phone #s and locations (scroll to bottom of page)

You can also send an email directly from his website by clicking here.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/billcassidy

Twitter: https://twitter.com/BillCassidy

Senator John Kennedy

Click <u>here</u> for LA and Washington phone #s and locations (scroll to bottom of page) You can also send an email directly from his website on that same webpage.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SenatorJohnKennedy/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/SenJohnKennedy

Confirm your action by replying to this email or your <u>LaCAN</u> Leader.

Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108 email: <u>info@laddc.org</u>

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates

twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

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