

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2015

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Governor of Colorado
Chairman
National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001


Dear Governor Hickenlooper,


On February 5, we released the Patient CARE Act, a legislative vision offering policies that could be adopted to provide relief to Americans hurt by the president's health care law. At its core, our proposal devolves power from Washington to empower families, small businesses, and states.

Whether in Medicaid or in the commercial health insurance market, we believe states have a key role to play in expanding access to coverage and helping to lower costs to consumers. The Patient CARE Act would return authority to regulate commercial health insurance to the states, where it best belongs. We would also give states new tools and authorities to help their citizens and manage their costs. Key among our reforms are policies to modernize Medicaid, increase state flexibility and control, and prioritize care for the most vulnerable.

Our goal is to recover the proper balance between the federal and state governments in Medicaid and commercial health insurance. You will find the details of our proposal attached. We invite you to provide feedback and suggest ways we can improve and build upon the ideas within the Patient CARE Act while better empowering states. We look forward to working with you and the nation's governors to repeal Obamacare and replace it with targeted, common sense reforms that reduce health care costs and increase access to quality coverage and care.

Sincerely,


Richard Burr
United States Senate


Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate


Fred Upton
U.S. House of Representatives