

MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors
From: Scott Mulhauser and Erin Shields for Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.)
Re: New Report Finds Nearly 60 Million Americans with Diagnosed Preexisting Conditions

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) commented today following the release of a new report documenting nearly 60 million Americans under age 65 who have been diagnosed with a preexisting condition and will therefore benefit from the new health care reform law that prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage and charging exorbitant rates for Americans who are sick. Baucus was a leader in working to pass the new law, which the report notes will protect the nearly one in five non-elderly Americans who have diagnosed preexisting conditions.

“For too long, millions of Americans who are sick, or have been sick in the past, suffered at the hand of insurance company abuses and discrimination,” said Baucus. **“Covering all Americans – even those with pre-existing conditions – is not only the right thing to do, but it will also give more Americans access to critical preventive care, saving money for everyone throughout the health care system. This new report illustrates what a critical victory the health care reform law is for the 60 million folks with preexisting conditions, and for all Americans.”**

The full report, released today by the consumer advocacy group, Families USA, is available [here](#).

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