

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anthony Welsbacher [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

My healthcare costs as a citizen with no government assistance rises, but bills like this are not a fix. And they do not work for a majority of the country. It makes me feel that much more sick when you put corporate welfare in tax breaks over covering members of the families and communities I know. Do something for all of us, not your friends of influence and lobbyists.

Anthony Welsbacher
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Shaolin Dam, Pennsylvania 17876

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara J Spiegelberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Barbara J Spiegelberg
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Pennsylvania 17565

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Moyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: my testimony for the Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son has autism and special needs and relies on Medicaid, my daughter has a pre-existing congenital heart issue and several other members of my family have relied on insurance through the Affordable Care Act when they were unable to get insurance anywhere else. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cathy Moyer
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherri Alms [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am submitting this statement in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. I am opposed for several reasons. First of all, as someone who has been a freelance writer for 20 years, I depended on getting health insurance as a single person for much of that time. Under this proposal, I would likely have a hard time getting insurance and the costs would be prohibitive, if not simply too expensive. While I am now covered by my husband's insurance, the thought that someone else may have to face buying food or buying insurance appalls me. There is no reason you all cannot keep what works about ACA—namely making sure everyone has access to affordable insurance. It's heartless and cruel to throw it out because Republicans don't like it.

Second, I used Planned Parenthood for reproductive health services the whole four years I was in college. Thanks to their services, I remained healthy and had access to low-cost birth control, which also meant I never had to have an abortion. It is not okay to punish Planned Parenthood with a one-year Medicaid funding freeze when the reality is that the people it will hurt most are low- and middle-income young women who have few other reasonably priced alternatives.

In addition, generally, as I read through what the bill would enact into law, what I find is that the bill's supporters are doing their best to make sure that the people who will suffer (and possibly die) are those who most need your help in getting access to reasonably priced, easily available health care, namely the poor and middle class. They are the people who will pay the price you say the government cannot afford. It isn't insurers, it isn't the wealthy, it isn't the government. It is, as usual when Republicans are at work, those who have the least who pay the most.

This is a terrible bill for virtually all Americans, certainly those who most need affordable health care. It's puzzling to me that the Senate, which purports to represent the interests of the American people, would attempt to push this cruel, vile attempt at revenge at President Obama into law.

Sherri Alms
[REDACTED]
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325

Sherri Alms
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juliann Pinto [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Juliann Pinto
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19136

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Heller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate:

1. There is no time to assess the impact of this bill. Though the CBO will issue an initial score in a few days, its final assessment will not be available for several weeks.
2. Senators will be voting blind on a bill that, according to major health organizations and insurers, promises to remove healthcare from millions and severely disrupt the markets
3. The bill's proposal to administer health care in the form of block grants to states will allow individual states to determine how these funds will be administered without assurances that the most vulnerable of our populations (seniors, people with pre-existing conditions, those with disabilities or suffering from drug addiction) will be protected.
4. Health care in America must be considered a right, not a commodity.
5. It is the responsibility of government to work – not for partisan glorification – but for the greater good.

Graham-Cassidy is not for the greater good – Please vote no!

Joan Heller
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Zipin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will take away essential health-care from women and children and the disabled.

Jill Zipin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yvonne Marlier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it does not assure coverage for those with preexisting conditions without paying a premium. We will all have a pre-existing condition if we belong to the human race that is why we health insurance that is affordable. Insurance is suppose to spread the risk. It is not insurance if some are left out. Senàtor Toomey is their really no person in your family who has had a illness?

Yvonne Marlier

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maia Model [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because the myriad problems it contains that target women would not only be harmful to women but hurt the economy, increase rates of poverty, and put crime in the rise.

Maia Model

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Kellerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Act

September 22, 2017

Dana Kellerman
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

To whom it may concern:

I urge the committee members to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

As a citizen of Pennsylvania, I am concerned about the negative impact this bill will have upon citizens with addiction problems, citizens with mental health issues and Medicaid recipients, including disabled children and the elderly in nursing homes. I am also greatly worried about the impending loss of jobs in the healthcare sector and supporting sectors, and the billions of dollars that will be redistributed from my state to states which chose not to help their lower income citizens by expanding Medicaid. I am most concerned about the millions of people (the Commonwealth Fund estimates 32 million) who will lose their health insurance.

I purchase my health insurance on the individual marketplace and do not receive any subsidies. I am fortunate in that my insurance premiums have fallen by over 50% from pre ACA prices. I am angry that my premiums will likely skyrocket (based upon the CBO assessment of the BCRA) even though I am a healthy 52 years old without any pre-existing conditions. I am heartsick for my friends who have a 7 year child with Spina bifida. Per capita Medicaid caps are likely to severely limit Eli's quality of life and he will exceed any lifetime insurance caps long before he reaches adulthood. I know no one who will be better off under this bill.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to predict the effects of the bill without a complete CBO score which will apparently not be available this coming week. It would be fiscally and morally irresponsible for the Senate to vote on a bill which effects 1/6 of the economy, without the Congressional Budget Office score. I have read that a vote is planned anyway which I find outrageous.

Passing the Graham -Cassidy bill would be devastating to my state of Pennsylvania and to the entire country. I urge the committee to instead support bipartisan efforts stabilize the insurance markets and improve the Affordable Care Act.

Sincerely,
Dana Kellerman

Wright, Kevin (Finance) ·

From: Marion Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Please register my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. Access to affordable healthcare is a right, this bill is bad for women, disabled and just ordinary Americans. How can the Senate even consider a bill of such importance without CBO input, public hearings and lack of approval from so many American medical organizations?

I thank Senator Bob Casey for standing with his constituents, my fellow Pennsylvanians. Please listen to the American people. Please choose the American people over your party.

In appreciation of your service,
Marion Williams

Marion Williams

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Abigail Ketchum [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family counts on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have healthcare through my job and our premiums increase annually as my share of payment goes up and my pay doesn't keep up. I'm already choosing between who gets care, my son or me, and that's just because of co-pays. I have mental health issues and I've had a baby. Both are considered pre-existing conditions. If I ever lose my job, I could lose healthcare for the rest of my life because companies won't want to insure me. And what about my young son? If he gets cancer or depression or diabetes, he could be impacted for the rest of his life. Improve the ACA, don't just take it away. One improvement would be universal healthcare.

Sincerely,
Abigail Ketchum
Harrisburg, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carrie Collins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

My son is 9 years old. He is a nonverbal autistic child with global developmental delays. He also has hyperinsulinism, which causes consistent low blood sugar. He is involved with multiple therapies - physical, occupational, communication/speech, as well as ongoing medical care. He is not bathroom-trained and needs assistance with most daily living skills. He just used his assistive communication device to tell me he wanted eggs and toast for breakfast.

He is on Medicaid. He has also benefited from the protections provided by the Affordable Care Act to those with pre-existing conditions (as have I, having been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis 10 years ago). While he is making great progress every day (thanks to his awesome public school special education program...but that's a discussion for another day), he very likely will never hold a job or be able to live on his own. He will very likely be on Medicaid for the rest of his life.

Except, under yet another ridiculous "plan" to repeal the ACA, that won't be available to him. States will not be able to pick up the slack when you cap and block-grant federal Medicaid dollars. ACA protections will cease to exist. That means there will be no safety net for my child. He is not guaranteed health insurance. He is not guaranteed the medications and therapies he needs. He is not guaranteed assisted living and employment supports when he gets older.

I believe that one of the main purposes of government is to help those who need it most in order for them to be valued and productive citizens of this country. This is not happening under this administration. There are no protections for the most vulnerable...only for the wealthiest, who will receive major tax breaks under the proposed plan. The poor, sick, elderly, and disabled citizens of our country will lose. My son will lose.

Carrie Collins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO REPEAL OF ACA

This new legislation to repeal the ACA is a disgrace. My family relied on medicaid when my grandfather was at the end of his life. I don't know what we would have done if it wasn't for the ACA. Kicking 32 million people off of their health insurance and taking billions away from medicare and medicaid is immoral and a disgrace. This has nothing to do with state's rights and everything do with giving states the authority to decide who lives and who dies. This administration needs to do better.

-Charlotte Burns

--
V19 Opportunity Scholar
Rosenthal Shelter Medicine Research Fellow
VMD Candidate, 2019
University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary Medicine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Cush [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will severely limit my ability to obtain and pay for health insurance. I am a 60-year-old single, self-employed woman with a history of cancer. And I vote! Last year my adjusted gross income was \$40K, and I don't expect to earn that much this year. Without the protections and subsidies of the Affordable Care Act, my premium would be nearly \$700 a month — \$8,000 a year — with a \$7,500 deductible. I have worked hard all my life to pay for health care, pay for a home and save for retirement. Without the protections and subsidies of the Affordable Care Act, a recurrence of cancer could bankrupt me. We should be moving toward universal healthcare for all, instead of coverage that will be affordable for just a few.

Catherine Cush

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Therese Byrne [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it has not been vetted. It does nothing to bring down the total cost of healthcare. In fact, it might increase. Why not have Medicare negotiate drug prices, increase clinics do less people in ERs? Millions will lose their healthcare. Folks with pre existing conditions will most likely pay significantly more. They need the insurance more than the healthy. This is not the right solution to our complicated problem. Do it right

Therese Byrne

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maxine Scherz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this plan cuts million of people off of Medicaid and limits women access to health care. This is being rushed through without a true hi partisan review and process. The congressional budget office doesn't have time to provide the cost. AARP, AMA and insurance companies are all against this hill. Older Americans not yet on Medicare will see huge jumps in cost. Many with chronic illnesses will not be able to afford care. Please do not pass this bill Maxine scherz 19027

Maxine Scherz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear Senate Staffers,

I have been enrolled in the ACA since 2014. It works very well for me. I am very satisfied with my options, and my plan. I do not receive any subsidies, and that's quite fine.

Do not overturn, or "repeal" the ACA. Make it better.

Vote "No" for this repeal effort.

Sincerely,

Walter Garvin
Bethlehem, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gay Vroble [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

what I like about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal is moving the money back to the states. The amount of fraud and the lack of true oversight at the federal level wastes a lot of money that could be used for real needs like services, programs, and support.

Gay Vroble

[REDACTED] PA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Barsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy

Finance Committee,

As a self-employed individual with a history of breast cancer, I depend upon the ACA for access to healthcare. While I do not have access to an employer-sponsored insurance plan, I contribute to society, I am a productive and law-abiding citizen, I pay my taxes, and I vote. It's not my fault that I have a pre-existing condition. For me, the bottom line is this: With accessible, affordable, quality healthcare I can continue to be productive. Without it, the odds are that I'll either go bankrupt or die.

Do you really want to take away healthcare for constituents like me in order to cut taxes for a few wealthy political supporters?

Lisa Barsky
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Halpin-Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy PBCC Opposes

Perfect!

Pat Halpin-Murphy
President & Founder
PA Breast Cancer Coalition
[REDACTED]
Lebanon, PA 17042
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
www.PABreastCancer.org

On Sep 22, 2017, at 4:29 PM, Pat Halpin-Murphy [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Next week, the U.S. Senate plans to vote on yet another bill to repeal and replace Obamacare (the Affordable Care Act) and it could be the *worst* one yet for people with pre-existing conditions like breast cancer survivors.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The latest Senate bill would allow states to eliminate current federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions like cancer. *The bill would make insurance unavailable and/or unaffordable for people with pre-existing conditions.* In addition, if passed, the legislation would include crippling cuts to Medicaid and would *end* Medicaid expansion.

We cannot give up now. Eliminating federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions and cutting health insurance coverage for **32 million Americans** is not the answer. I am asking you to call or email Senator Pat Toomey's office and tell him to **Vote NO** on the **Graham-Cassidy bill**.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Krauss [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy - Please DON'T pass

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

This email is to appeal to any sense of decency you might have to NOT pass Graham-Cassidy!!!.

Why a bi-partisan solution cannot be put forth is beyond my comprehension given that the MAJORITY of Americans do not support this bill and this was already being worked on by Alexander and Murray. Are people's health, well-being and lives really worth Tax Cuts for the wealthy?!

I have not been much of a political activist throughout my life but I am completely distraught and disgusted by what I see going on in these days.

Sincerely,

Susan Krauss

Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leisa Craver [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Leisa Craver

Harrisburg PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Sherman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson bill proposal

To Whom it may concern,

I have grave concerns over the welfare of my son, 14, diagnosed with autism at age 3. I've already seen a variety of health needs that have been challenging in terms of health coverage, despite the fact that not only is he covered by Medicaid, he's also been covered by my employer provided health plans. He requires special diet, medications, supplements, therapies and wrap around services etc. I've already seen private insurance, namely Highmark BC/BS that has discriminated against him because of his autism. He was denied a treatment that he met the established criteria on their website – that is until they knew of his autism diagnosis. So then I ended up paying 16K out of pocket to get him the treatment he needed. Without protections, I can see the states limiting coverage and lifetime maximums scare the hell out of me. My son will likely live a normal life expectancy, far beyond mine, God willing. So that said, who will help him if he exceeds some arbitrary maximum the state imposes. Despite the supposed assurance of block grants, I just don't see how this can be of benefit to my son and so many others with extraordinary challenges. His autism was not his fault, not a result of some poor life choices or health habits. I don't think he should be punished for what he could not control.

Frankly any one who votes for this bill will not have my vote in upcoming elections. I think that can be said across the board for families of special needs children like my own across this state and across the country.

Don't assume that somehow the state government can magically come up with solutions that the Federal government hasn't found. It's just passing the buck and crossing your fingers to hope it will all work out. That's ridiculous and irresponsible. Use the normal legislative process and figure it out – don't t take short-cuts just so you can tell some constituents you kept a promise. That's juvenile. You should be smarter than that.

Sincerely,

Beth Sherman
[REDACTED]

Industry, PA 15052
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda O'Brien [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Public comment on Graham-Cassidy proposal

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia PA 19118

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

I am extremely concerned about the Graham – Cassidy bill making its way through the Senate now. This cruel, irresponsible, ill-designed and ill-conceived bill would take away health care from millions, inject even more uncertainty into the health care markets, gut health care for women, children and the elderly, and make it likely that all Americans are just one illness away from bankruptcy.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has been a blessing for our family. We have had health insurance both from employer plans and ACA. The time gap between employer plans and ACA was full of uncertainty, high premiums and medical underwriting conditions. At one point, our family of four was denied coverage from a major insurer because one of us had more than three medications (all generic) in the preceding 12 months. However, our family has been lucky – in spite of asthma and a heart condition, we have found ways to stay insured, but it was stressful.

Since ACA was passed, we've had no problems with the website or the coverage. While the number of insurers in Pennsylvania declined this year, there were still nine plans available to us. I understand insurance cannot be a la carte and it is a community undertaking. So while there may be services I do not use, my premiums mean that those services are available overall to other members of the plan. Premium increases are unavoidable, but not unreasonable, perhaps due to Independence Blue Cross' experience in pricing medical plans accurately and their ability to negotiate rates with local providers. It does not interfere with my ability to choose a doctor or facility and it does not influence how my doctor treats me.

The Graham-Cassidy proposal is an abomination. It gambles with the health and financial security of Americans, particularly the weakest Americans.

- This plan was created by bureaucrats without cost estimates and without consultation with the insurance industry, the medical profession or the public, and it victimizes primarily women, the poor, the young and those aged 50-64. Because Congress has chosen to advance this bill **without** a complete CBO score, even Congress has no idea what this bill will do. It is irresponsible to blindly consider legislation that affects 1/6 of the US economy.
- Graham-Cassidy jeopardizes the stability of future health insurance markets and means that health care premiums will rise precipitously. The rhetoric coming out of Congress has also created turmoil in the current state markets because no insurer has any idea where this is going.
- There is no expertise to manage a health care system in each state, as the National Association of Medicaid Directors has unanimously recognized. A patchwork health care system that varies from state to state benefits no one, impedes movement from state to state, and creates a system of second class states.

- Some of the most sensible provisions of ACA require ten essential health services to be covered and plans to be comparable. If these are eliminated, there will be no certainty in what is covered and apples-to-apples comparisons of health plans will be impossible. The average consumer of health insurance is no match for the arcane language of health policies.
- Pre-existing conditions and lifetime maxima will return. This proposal will allow insurance companies to charge more, impose surcharges or refuse to cover people because of these conditions. As a result, people will either die from lack of care or the rest of the country will be forced to pay for medical care for individuals who are currently covered under ACA.

In short, I ask you to consider the welfare of the citizens of the US and let Senators Alexander and Murray continue their work to make responsible changes to ACA in a bipartisan, reasoned manner.

If you have any questions or should wish to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Linda G. O'Brien

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Mansfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

As a Citizen of Pennsylvania a registered voter and grandmother of 7, I am writing to express my opposition to the current health proposal co-sponsored by Senators Graham and Cassidy. My reasons are:

1. The proposed bill does nothing to address the main problem with the ACA, the rising costs of health care. Instead it puts costs on states and individuals. States will have more difficulty addressing the health care needs of their citizens and individuals will find themselves with exceptionally high increases once federal funding ends. I get that there are many reasons to kick the can down the road, but this particular bill does so much more harm than good that it should not become law.

2. Peoples lives are at stake. This issue is too important to push through in a week without providing more complete information on the estimated impacts the law would have on Americans, states, insurance companies... the full monty

3. If Senator Grassley is correct, and there are many better ways to address health in our country, time should be provided to work through a complete review of the bill (see 2). Senator McCain said this most persuasively.

4. The cuts to medicaid are unconscionable. Low income Americans aren't disposable; that is precisely what the effects of this bill amounts to. The information I have read suggests that the proposed block grants would cut federal funds from expected ACA expenses by 81.6 billion dollars. Federal funding, set to expire in 2027, is an essential component of affordable health care.

5. Giving states 2 years to have 50 different insurance policies up and running makes little sense. Most insurance companies oppose this bill as it will destabilize the insurance market and make it far more difficult for Americans to afford coverage.

6. There is no guarantee that states will cover essential health benefits, including prenatal care and delivery, mental health coverage and the requirement that Americans with pre-existing health conditions will be able to obtain health insurance.

sincerely,
Margaret Mansfield
[REDACTED]
Secane Pa 19018

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leigh Anne Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I was 58 years old when I received my cancer diagnosis, but having supported both of my parents through their individual battles with cancer (each of whom died from their disease), I was well prepared for the myriad of challenges I faced as I initially sought treatment, and now, as I continue monitoring for a recurrence. Having just turned 60, under Graham-Cassidy, I face an uncertain future due to my “pre-existing condition.”

But frankly, if it weren’t for a very different personal experience our family has had in the world of healthcare, I would not be writing this comment to be entered into the record.

Unfortunately, our family has faced a struggle that is among the darkest a human being can imagine - when you hear those terrifying words: your child has cancer. My nephew was 15 years old when he was diagnosed with metastatic sarcoma. And make no mistake, every single day, our family feels deeply fortunate to be among those who saw their child – after suffering months and months of brutal chemotherapy and damaging radiation treatments – come through on the other side.

Only now, as my nephew prepares to graduate and enter the workforce, he faces a changed world, where he bears the additional unnecessary burden of “pre-existing conditions” that will permit discrimination and limitations on his access to requisite healthcare. Like other young people, his fate under Graham-Cassidy becomes a complete unknown, where state by state, he may be excluded from all coverage or will be charged prohibitively high rates for insurance that can be largely meaningless. Indeed, in our state of Pennsylvania – which some referred to as the Wild Wild West before the Affordable Care Act became law - discrimination was the norm, and someone in his condition would feel compelled to move away from the support of family and friends, as well as longtime healthcare providers, in the hope of simply gaining access to care.

Why is this happening? Why is there even a conversation taking place to entertain a turning back of the clocks on something as fundamental as healthcare? Is this to satisfy the egos of congress people who don’t have to endure the indignities that we in the public go through as we receive healthcare? Is it so congress people can “make good on a promise” to undue a piece of legislation, while imperfect, has brought coverage – and comfort – to families all across our great nation?

Please, I implore the members of congress to vote NO, do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Please, stop and think about the full effects on the lives of not us old people who have “pre-existing conditions”, but on the lives of the young citizens of this country, many of whom have gone through trials you cannot begin to fathom just to reach adulthood, so they could live everyday lives of purpose and meaning.

Please, do not adopt a bill that penalizes any young person who has fought so very hard for his/her life, survived a terrible illness he/she had no part in causing, only to be forever placed at such added unfair disadvantage for the rest of their lives.

Please, show compassion for the young people who are the future of America.

leigh anne smith
bryn mawr, pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Russell Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal bill

I write to express my vehement opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is irresponsible to pass this initiative when so many Americans, especially those in Pennsylvania where I reside, will lose their healthcare coverage and protections. As Senator McCain also notes, this type of legislation needs a robust discussion including CBO scoring – neither of which the Senate Republicans have considered let alone pursued. This is shameful, purely partisan behavior that egregiously ignores the well-being of Americans.

Russell Johnson
[REDACTED]
Penllyn, PA 19422
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Caren Holzhauser [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

I'm writing to you today on behalf of my four year old twins, Colin & Andrew. Colin & Andrew were born on March 27, 2013 at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Giving birth was CHOP was not part of our plan. We were supposed to give birth at our local hospital and bring our babies home and live happily and healthily every after.

Unfortunately, Colin and Andrew had other plans. Just a week before Thanksgiving 2012, we went to our anatomy scan full of excitement to find out if we were having boys, girls, or a combination of both. During our scan, in almost the same breath of finding out we were going to have two sons, we also learned that there was something not quite right about either of their hearts. Try to imagine that punch in the gut. Something wrong with not one of your babies, but both!

While Andrew was born with a bicuspid aortic valve and hasn't needed intervention, Colin was born with Tetralogy of Fallot and has needed quite a bit of intervention in his four and a half years. Colin's surgery was scheduled to occur when he was roughly four months old. Again, having plans of his own, he ended up in the ER at two weeks old and had his first open heart surgery early the next morning. Surgery went well and Colin began his road to recovery. That bliss lasted one day.

The next day Colin developed Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC), which is a serious disease that occurs when the intestinal tissue becomes damaged. He was immediately put on antibiotics and a paralytic, forcing him to lay still and unable to be held for 7 days. Seven long days passed where we couldn't hold or comfort him while he continued to blow up like a balloon and look like a child that was unrecognizable to us.

After finally recovering from NEC we felt like we were coming out of the woods and might get to go home soon! Prior to being discharged, Colin had another echo to check on his heart. I may never forget when the echo tech looked at me and said, "When is he scheduled to have his surgery?". In walked a medical team to tell us that Colin had now developed a pseudoaneurysm on his new patch, and once again, would need to go to the OR to be repaired.

We were lucky that his second surgery went so well. He has since had four heart catheterizations to place stents in his pulmonary arteries in an effort to keep the blood flowing properly so that a pseudoaneurysm never forms again. Even after all of this, he hasn't been limited in his activities, but his journey is so far from over. We know he has more catheterizations and surgeries in his future, which is why I am writing to you today.

As a child with a preexisting condition, we cannot leave it up to the state to decide if Colin, and kids like him, should be covered or have a yearly or lifetime limit. This would truly devastate so many thousands of families. I am urging you to vote no for the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. Healthcare should be a right in this country, not a privilege. Please support a healthcare bill that covers everyone so that parents like us can stop worrying about coverage and focus our time making sure our children have what they need to thrive.

Thank you,



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: please vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Committee Members,

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill, and please encourage your colleagues to do the same.

This bill will directly and negatively impact millions of Americans. No American should suffer with untreated medical conditions, no American should face bankruptcy due to insurance premiums or uncovered care, and no American should die or watch a friend or family die due to a lack of access to affordable health care.

We are, we believe, a beacon to other nations, yet those who support this bill would damn their fellow Americans to needless suffering and death. Is that who we are as a nation?? I hope not.

Please, defeat Graham-Cassidy and other efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and work to advance providing the federally provided healthcare insurance that you enjoy to all Americans, or expand Medicare to cover all Americans. A single-payer system is the one way to ensure that Americans are not among the least served in matters of health care.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. We are all one office visit or another away from a diagnosis that could change our lives or take our lives.

Ellen Foster
Clarion, Pennsylvania
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Werber [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing condition concerns Diabetes. My husband, who is currently undergoing rehab for his knees depends on affordable healthcare. My friends rely heavily on affordable healthcare for their cancer diagnosis and bipolar depression. My parents rely heavily on affordable healthcare for my mother's breast cancer survival and my father's dialysis. I would love to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Werber

Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ed gruver [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

ed gruver

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

lanaster, Pennsylvania 17601

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: gregory small [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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gregory small
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Halpin-Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy PBCC Opposes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Next week, the U.S. Senate plans to vote on yet another bill to repeal and replace Obamacare (the Affordable Care Act) and it could be the *worst* one yet for people with pre-existing conditions like breast cancer survivors.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The latest Senate bill would allow states to eliminate current federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions like cancer. *The bill would make insurance unavailable and/or unaffordable for people with pre-existing conditions.* In addition, if passed, the legislation would include crippling cuts to Medicaid and would *end* Medicaid expansion.

We cannot give up now. Eliminating federal protections for people with pre-existing conditions and cutting health insurance coverage for **32 million Americans** is not the answer. I am asking you to call or email Senator Pat Toomey's office and tell him to **Vote NO** on the **Graham-Cassidy bill**.

Call Sen. Toomey at (202) 224-4254

Click here to email Sen. Toomey

Senator Bob Casey has already told us he will vote No. Call or email Sen. Casey and thank him.

Call Sen. Casey at (202) 224-6324

Click here to email Sen. Casey

Save federal health insurance protections for breast cancer survivors like us.

Take action. *Save lives.*

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You will receive this e-mail as a subscriber of information from the PBCU.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Zoll [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Kathleen Zoll
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oreland , Pennsylvania 19075

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Monica Hatton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearings

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with preexisting conditions is life long. I had rheumatic fever as a kid and continue to deal with heart problems as well as rheumatoid arthritis. My granddaughter is in the low income bracket and depends on Medicaid. My daughter also suffers from arthritis and her husband suffers from depression. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Monica A Hatton

Lancaster, PA 17602

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Diamond [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy opposition

To Whom it may Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are growing our family and recently had a baby girl. Because of this and many other reasons, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Tara Diamond
Malvern, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcia Shaffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I just received Medicaid coverage and it is helping me with my medical bills as well as my pre-existing conditions of athetoid cerebral palsy and arthritis so it is important we keep the plans as they are today.

--

Marcia Shaffer
[REDACTED]

Marywood University Learning Resources Center
Scranton, Pennsylvania
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BGNewman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

It is clear the the red states are not going to enforce coverage of pre-existing conditions just as they did. It expand Medicaid. When you try to claim pre-existing conditions will definitely get affordable coverage you are lying to the public and to yourself.

This bill should NOT PASS!!!

Beth Newman
Murrysville. Pa 15668
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: K Strickland [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Miller, Derek (Casey); dan_brandt@toomey.senate.gov
Subject: Vote No on Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Committee Members,

Under the ACA my daughter has been able to access comprehensive health care that has literally saved her life. The management of her condition is predicated on the continued parity of mental and physical health benefits, and on the continued guarantee of coverage for pre-existing conditions.

The Graham Cassidy bill undermines these protections, and all the other essential health benefits that Americans have come to depend on. Furthermore, the bill cripples efforts to provide care for our most vulnerable, and includes ideas that will destabilize health care markets, potentially sending the health insurance industry into a death spiral. I am but one mom, but I am not alone in my condemnation of this political farce of a healthcare bill. Doctors, hospitals, and insurance companies don't like it. Advocates for the elderly, children, and the disabled are against it. Governors and Medicaid Directors blast the content and the process of the bill. Anything that ripples through and consumes 20% of our country's economy deserves inventive, collaborative creativity.

We as a nation have the capacity to ensure that everyone receives the equitable health care that they need to live full, engaged, inspired lives. I am asking you, begging you—provide the political will to drive bipartisan innovation to stabilize and strengthen the ACA.

Please. Lives hang in the balance.

Respectfully,

Kay Strickland
Shavertown, Pennsylvania
18708
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Eisenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Republican health bill

I am from Pennsylvania. The Graham-Cassidy bill would be horrible Pennsylvanians. Reject it!

People with pre-existing conditions would be harmed.

Sincerely,

Laurie Forman Eisenberg
Allentown, PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gerald Shaeffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because of the many health organizations, state Medicaid directors and insurance companies that are against it. The only people who support it are Republican politicians. Surely a full Congressional Budget Office score is required before a possible vote on the bill.

The National Association of Medicaid Directors have said "Taken together, the per-capita caps and the envisioned block grant would constitute the largest intergovernmental transfer of financial risk from the federal government to the states in our country's history. This bill is bad for Americans and I urge you to vote against it.

Gerald Shaeffer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Miades [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill / comments

Good afternoon,

I firmly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill and here are my reasons:

- 1) I currently have great, affordable health care and do not want that to change.
- 2) The ACA has enrolled so many Americans that would not otherwise have been covered. This means more people go to doctors for preventative care and can get advice on a healthy lifestyle as well as find health issues sooner (costing all of us less I believe).
- 3) The ACA forces Insurance Co's to cover pre-existing conditions at a reasonable rate. G-C Bill will reverse that and cause many Americans to go into debt to get back on track.
- 4) I do believe our country needs to follow the examples of other countries (Canada, France, England, etc) that ensure Health Care for all of their citizens.

Let's IMPROVE health care for all Americans by working together to improve and build upon the great things the ACA has done.

Thank you,

Ellen Miades
Glenside, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Wegerbauer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill comments

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Please vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill!

It is dangerous to our nation, especially the most vulnerable of us. Please have the courage to vote no on this bill. It affects all of us as Americans. Bottom line: people will die if this bill passes. Please, Senators. Do the right thing and vote NO. All eyes are on you. The nation waits for you to stand up and stand united with ALL Americans. You give us hope.

Thank you for listening.

Beth

Beth Wegerbauer
[REDACTED]

West Chester, PA 19380

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Hudock [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I used to think voting for the candidate, not the party was the right thing to do but Toomey changed that in the last few months.

I am appalled at how the GOP is carelessly and deceitfully trying to shove their healthcare bill through and their clear focus is their own pockets. Their lies and contradictions prove they have no idea or care what is in the bill as long as they make their donors happy. You are screwing with peoples lives.

The ACA was sabotaged by the GOP and the protections in it need to be preserved. People need to know they can get treatment and not get dropped. I can't believe I even have to say that to anyone in a civilized society.

18054 PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Bergey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Nancy Bergey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New Wilmington, Pennsylvania 16132

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Furia [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am a physician who has practiced medicine before and during the implementation of the ACA. If Graham-Cassidy is enacted, people will die as a result. I believe that the Republican Party should then be listed as terrorist organization. It will be responsible for more American deaths than all the terrorist attacks going back to the Oklahoma City bombing, 9/11, and the most recent attacks. What is needed is a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA or replace it with a single payer system.

**Robert Furia, M.D.
Newtown Square, PA**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Janusko [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Robert Janusko
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Gerhart-Rothholz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because healthcare is a significant part of the budget and decisions should not be hurried through the process in an effort to just pass something. This matter deserves serious bipartisan efforts.

My son is a Medicaid recipient in PA because he has Down syndrome. He received the services of a physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech therapist, behavior therapist, an aide, as well as some help from a learning support teacher. This help enables him to spend his day with his typically developing peers in a typical first grade classroom. He is reading at a first-grade level and can do some of his math assignments without modification, thanks, in part, to Medicaid. The help he receives now will mean he is likely to require less help as an adult.

Pennsylvania struggles with its budget. Moving to block grants does not mean choice. It means there will be fewer dollars available for those who need services. Reducing those services now will mean greater dependence on services and government funding later.

Please vote no to Graham-Cassidy, for Evan and all other school children whose independence is at stake.

Julie Gerhart-Rothholz

[REDACTED] PA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward Guidos [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

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Edward Guidos
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Washington, Pennsylvania 15301

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lawrence Berardi [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Lawrence Berardi
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G/H health bill

Dear Senators:

I am highly opposed to this bill. It appears to be a "rush job" that will take away healthcare from countless people or make it completely unaffordable. Work on a bipartisan health bill to fix Obamacare. This is a heartless bill that will kill many senior citizens and people living with pre-existing conditions.

Respectfully,

John C. Blase PhD

[REDACTED]
Manheim, PA 17545

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Appleton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Thomas Appleton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Southampton, Pennsylvania 18966

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Norma Kline [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of "Trumpcare" is as unacceptable as the others. As Sen. McCain and others have noted, the bill has not been developed on a bi-partisan basis, adequate hearings (90 seconds is allotted), or input from major players of the healthcare industry , or the public.

The Graham-Cassidy bill does not correct the faults of ACA or seek to provide legitimate healthcare for Americans. Once again, the GOP has prepared a partisan bill written more or less in secret that overtly deprives tens of millions of people of healthcare, and via loopholes for states and insurances companies threatens tens of millions more. Add to that a shell game of medicaid re-reshuffling with radically cut funds, and the GOP clearly throws the elderly and financially strapped Americans under the bus.

In short, I, as an elderly person with pre-existing conditions living on a restricted income, will undoubtedly not be able to afford my secondary insurance, or get a policy worth the paper on which it is printed. Examples -Pre-existing condition: senior and others, female; ACA essential services -- not guaranteed; Spending caps -- not guaranteed). I'm not eligible for medicaid.

Clearly, the GOP is willing to let millions suffer and die for a campaign pledge; to provide tax cuts to the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes; and it is reported to prefer to satisfy their rich campaign donors (e.g., Koch Brothers) than serve their constituents.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Norma Kline

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Downey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because people will die. I am a high school teacher and have several students whose families are alive and not on the brink of bankruptcy because they were able to get health insurance through Obamacare. Please don't make a choice that will send me to the funerals of my kids' families.

Holly Downey

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Srikanth Raghunathan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Srikanth Raghunathan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marc Hoffman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Marc Hoffman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

North Wales, Pennsylvania 19454

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mitchell Chaikin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Mitchell Chaikin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Northumberland, Pennsylvania 17857

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: susanne cleary [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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susanne cleary
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CHELTENHAM, Pennsylvania 19012

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Hoffman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Jennifer Hoffman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112-3906

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kira Hadalski [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Kira Hadalski
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yardley, Pennsylvania 19067

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alan Chronister [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Alan Chronister
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roslyn Stutz Ionta [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Roslyn Stutz Ionta
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Beaver, Pennsylvania 15009

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Brody [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will deny healthcare to millions of citizens. It will cause people to use the most expensive healthcare, the emergency room, and might even bankrupt numerous hospitals.

Do not support the above-mentioned bill. It is a disgrace for this country even be thinking about this bill.

Janet Brody

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please defeat this bill. There was no input from women, Democrats, or medical professionals. The insurance companies are even against it.

The ACA needs some updating but this is not the answer!!

Carolyn Houston

[REDACTED]
Doylestown PA 18902

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leslye Rowland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO ON GC!

This is an atrocious and immoral bill that literally threatens people's lives. Please vote no on GC. Please save the ACA and eventually work together to recognize health as a basic human right. We must take care of each other.

Leslye Rowland
Philadelphia 19145

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ginger Marshall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband just lost his job last month and we were able to easily purchase affordable health insurance for my husband my son and myself. My husband has preexisting conditions that require regular medication and doctor visits. Without the ACA we would not have been able to get the healthcare our family needs. The ACA will allow my husband to get the healthcare that he needs to be able to get back to work. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Ginger Marshall

Spring Mills, PA (16875)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erika Zommer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Aca

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability consists of 2 children with special needs a mother with Parkinson's a partner with cancer and my own debilitating illness. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Erika Zommer

Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Bertotti [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelancer, and I pay almost \$400 a month for my health care. I get no subsidies. I had no choices before, and now my \$400 provides quality care. I am pregnant, and I MUST keep my insurance to bring my boy into the world in a way that will not bankrupt my husband and me.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Dana Bertotti
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Please do not go forward with your plan to repeal the ACA. Instead, put together a bipartisan effort to improve it.

The republican party is committing suicide if it thinks repealing the ACA and replacing it with their version of Trumpcare (who knows what that is that is) is a good idea.

Have a conscience and some moral integrity: vote NO on the bill you are ramming through.

Thank you.

Geraldine Burton

Bryn Mawr, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chel Avery [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony: Please stop Graham-Cassidy

My sister, a U.S. citizen from birth, and a Ph.D., has been unemployed for three years. She was director of a University program in England when a change in visa regulations caused her to lose her job almost overnight, and since her return to the U.S., she has been unable to find salaried employment, despite a rising career arc up to that cutoff. She works part-time and irregularly. She is generally healthy, but required major surgery about 10 years ago, followed by a complete recovery. Her age is 59. I worry about her all the time: without the ACA she would not be able to afford adequate health insurance -- something EVERYONE needs. Please do not enact any legislation that would undercut Obamacare until we have something better to replace it with -- or never, which would be OK, too.

Yours sincerely,

Chel Avery
Downingtown, PA 19335

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Emery [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: John Emery; gdabiri@gdscimed.com; Christine Emery; emerysr@verizon.net; Rob Emery; plemery64@comcast.net
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear esteemed senators and staff,

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

As just one of several examples, my sister suffers from a disabling mental illness that, sadly, ended her nearly 30-year career as 6th grade science educator. She currently is unable to work, and lives off her meager savings. The only means by which she can afford health care insurance is through the affordable care act (ACA).

In addition to her mental health challenges, this summer was diagnosed with an extremely rare hematologic disorder (1-in-a-million prevalence) that destroys platelets and red blood cells. We are fortunate in that there is one drug approved for this condition, but under the care affordable to her currently, she will reach a lifetime maximum on her policy within 1-2 years. Without this drug, she is likely to succumb to her disease, and in a manner that would cause considerable disability, suffering, and societal cost.

My sister is 51, and she has a natural and effortless gift with young students. She inspires them with examples of animals, the environment, and the power and promise of science. She has influenced countless students from central Pennsylvania to pursue scientific careers to improve lives. Sadly, without affordable medical care, her potential to continue inspiring future scientific leaders is minimal. We continue to work with her on a weekly basis to help her in her journey towards improved health and recovered potential, with the hope that she will someday return to inspiring future scientists in some capacity.

HOWEVER, without affordable health care, this will be an impossibility.

For this reason, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John G Emery, PhD
[REDACTED]

Wynnewood, Pa 19096

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Keet Leibowitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators:

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family -- like millions of other American families -- relies on affordable healthcare.

Please consider my story: my first and only pregnancy was wanted and planned. I was 29 years old, I had an ideal diet, I had excellent prenatal care, and I never drank, smoked, or engaged in risky behaviors while pregnant. Despite all this, I developed severe pre-eclampsia and HELLP syndrome, causing my daughter to be born 13 weeks early via emergency C-section; she remained in NICU for 3 months and required countless services as an infant. My daughter's extreme prematurity is not her fault. It's not anyone's fault. She should never have to go bankrupt once she reaches adulthood because of this unavoidable pre-existing condition.

Congress should be working on improving and strengthening the ACA instead of trying to repeal it.

Sincerely,
Tara Keet Leibowitz
Paoli, PA--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am self employed and purchase my own insurance. My son has a pre-existing condition and prior to the ACA, we could not buy insurance for him. The risk pool he was put in was ridiculously out of our reach. And this is a young man who was not even being treated for the condition. He was shot while at a college party and because of the ensuing surgery that saved his life, he became an insurance risk. He required no further treatment, but still was treated as a risk and denied insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Terry Hirst-Herman
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Bate [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

As a low-income person who was uninsured before the ACA, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was never able to afford insurance coverage before, and fear I would lose my current coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Emily Bate, Philadelphia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly and unequivocally oppose the travesty that is the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am beyond reasonable retirement age, but must keep working in order to maintain employer-paid healthcare. I am terrified that if this (or any other Republican bill) were to pass my Medicare and secondary insurance coverage would shrivel while the co-pays and deductibles would skyrocket. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. All Americans deserve decent, affordable, accessible healthcare.

Sincerely,

Monica Cahill
Ardmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Annika Zwirn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to repair and improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Annika Zwirn

Pittsburgh, PA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: patsy higgins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA

All people deserve quality, affordable healthcare regardless of their income, age or situation. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which would leave millions of people with no healthcare insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Patricia Higgins

Narberth, Pa 19072

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Bodner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, as do ALL Americans. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will do nothing to help the average citizen. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jill Bodner

Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Shaffrey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comment for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I'm writing as an everyday American to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Passing any bill without waiting for CBO analysis is beyond reckless, and legislation that would have such a profound effect on the economy should have the benefit of extensive discussion, hearings and analysis.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Colleen A. Shaffrey
Wexford, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dave & Faith Neal [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Dave & Faith Neal
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Duncansville, Pennsylvania 16635

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Ferreri [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Patricia Ferreri
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pgh., Pennsylvania 15228

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Victoria Adey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

I am a sixty-seven year old woman living in Glen Mills, PA. After teaching preschool and kindergarten for 28 years, I retired two years ago. My husband and I are the proud parents of four adult sons, and are also blessed with nine grandchildren. Four years ago, I was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer. I underwent eighteen months of treatment, including 10 months of chemotherapy, six weeks of radiation, and a double mastectomy. So far, the treatment appears to have been successful.

Having said that, I am not assuming I am "cured". It is surely possible, and even likely, that this cancer will metastasize to another part of my body. Since I would be considered a patient with a "pre-existing condition", I am very anxious about the Graham-Cassidy bill. I also have the utmost respect and trust in the many organizations that have spoken out AGAINST this bill - from the American Cancer Society to the AMA to Independence Blue Cross.

I implore you to not pass this version of a healthcare bill, and instead return to the table, TAKE YOUR TIME, and replace the areas of the existing ACA that are faulty, and keep those parts that are working.

Thank you for your thoughtful decision making regarding this matter.

Victoria Adey
Glen Mills, PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy Act

Hello:

I am a Pennsylvania citizen who is very much opposed to the Graham Cassidy Act because I have an uncle who experienced a severe illness recently and was hospitalized but did not have insurance. He always thought it would be too expensive to purchase. He finally checked into Obamacare and found out he could actually afford it with the subsidy so he purchased healthcare insurance for the first time ever. He still owes a ton of money for his original hospitalization but now if something else happens he is covered.

Many of my friends who are hard working people but do not have great jobs depend on Obamacare to purchase health insurance. If you take it away it will make our country more dangerous because people will be walking around sick and diseased and without mental health care if they need it. I don't want to live in that country. If you want that kind of a country, then PLEASE LEAVE.

Sincerely,
American taxpaying VOTING citizen, Nancy E. Adams

[REDACTED]
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Wasson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy is an irresponsible bill, whose passage would be deadly to millions of Americans.

Sara Wasson
wyncote, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Collins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No GrahamCassidy

The Graham Cassidy bill will kill my family, and friends. We all have preexisting conditions. We would lose our ability to pay for health insurance due to price increases due to preexisting conditions, and an age tax.

My friends with cancer would just have to say no to chemo and choose to die. They could never afford the higher insurance rates for those with cancer. And my friends with premature infants will lose their child's healthcare by the reinstatement of lifetime caps to their insurance plans.

Please do not pass this harmful bill. It is a bill designed to kill Americans.

Sincerely,
Beth Collins
Havertown, PA 19083

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David A. Stuart [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: This bill is worse than the earlier ones.

We have a new born who has a rare mutation. Pennsylvania Medicaid has kept him alive. To remove our access to Medicaid and send these funds to a state that previously did not step up to participate in the Medicaid match is CRUEL. NASTY. This is politics at its worst.

If the Reps vote this thru in the Senate I will never vote Republican as long as I live. You guys represent hollow politics and not PEOPLE. You are not representing your constituents--you are representating a small group of very, very wealthy people who want to wrest control of our democracy and make it an oligagchy.

Plain speaking. Telling it like it is.

David A. Stuart, Ph.D.
CEO & Founder
Food & Nutrient Impact, LLC
[REDACTED]

Hershey., PA 17033 USA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Deimel [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

As a public school educator, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for a variety of reasons. Both in my family as well as in the students I work with are many people who rely on Medicaid, which would be cut under this bill. Additionally, as a woman in her 30s who is looking to have children, I am very concerned about what this bill could mean for my and others' access to sexual health and reproductive services, including a Planned Parenthood funding freeze for one year. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jessica Deimel
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

You should be ashamed of yourselves. Do you really think you are doing the work of and for the American people with this bill? Look yourselves in the mirror and admit that this is just legislation for legislation sake. All this does is keep a promise of "repeal" and does nothing to replace or fix healthcare. Its all about your large donors and your precious tax cuts for the wealthy. It is obvious you don't care about millions of people -women, children, disabled and the elderly - who will be negatively impacted.

Why is it you can't wait for a CBO score or regular orders? We know why and we won't let you get away with it. Shame on you...especially you Lindsay Graham.&n bsp; You are going against your own principles, making deals with Maine and Alaska. Well then where is everyone else's deal?

We are watching and we are voting,
Karen Lynch
Skippack, PA

Sent from my LG G4, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: benita campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johson proposal: TRUMPCURSE

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is far worse than the ACA. WE NEED MEDICARE FOR ALL!

TrumpCurse will hurt millions of struggling Americans just to pay for yet another tax cut for the least deserving, sociopathic plutocrats--like the Koch brothers and Sheldon Adelson. WE NEED MEDICARE FOR ALL!

Until we have MEDICARE FOR ALL, we must keep and shore up the ACA.

BUT SUPPORT AND PASS MEDICARE FOR ALL ASAP!

Sincerely,
Benita J. Campbell

[REDACTED]
Burgettstown, PA 15021-1165

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mia Blitstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions involves being diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins lymphoma at age 32 as a mother of a 3 year old boy. Thanks to excellent healthcare, I am a survivor now but not without damage to my heart from radiation. If insurance companies were allowed to drop me, my family would go bankrupt and that doesn't even begin to include the rest of my family's care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Mia Blitstein
Wyncote, PA 19095

All typos courtesy of my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lorraine Ball [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I don't believe it will protect individuals with pre-existing conditions, it does not give the same protection to all Americans (we need federal mandates to do that, not state-based), it does not require all Americans to participate in it, and it does not expand the current coverage which is what it should do. We need a well-thought out, single payer, tax-based, equal for all health care like most of the Western World already enjoys. The whole notion of giving individuals the option of having health care or not having it is absurd - it really just means that those of us with health care insurance will continue to subsidize those without (unless we are willing to have dying diseased bodies littering our streets) and that their care will be more expensive because they will not have kept up their preventive and wellness care!! I am in complete opposition to this bill!!!

Lorraine Ball

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patti & Rick Barker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a Medicare subscriber, my daughter & her partner are on Medicaid. The G-C bill is attempting to defund Planned Parenthood & reduce Medicaid. Millions of Americans would lose their healthcare options - ALL of these are unacceptable!

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please protect us from these shortsighted Senators - all of whom do not have to worry about healthcare because our government provides it for them.

Sincerely,

Patricia Schaefer

Rosemont, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear members of the Senate,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Finishing graduate school in a difficult academic job market this year meant that I and many of my hard working colleagues who had spent five years or more earning their PhDs were disproportionately likely to rely on the ACA for health insurance when our student health plans ended . As professionals, many of whom work as adjunct professors or in other precarious positions of employments, my generation of academic peers in among the broad group of citizens of the United States who need to have health insurance options even if we have pre-existing conditions or want to start families. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Rosanna Dent
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice MacKenzie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee;

Please do not pass the terrible Graham/Cassidy "healthcare" bill - this bill is not about health care for the sick, it's about tax cuts for the wealthy! Why can't you see that the only people who want this "repeal and replace" legislation are Republican Senators and Representatives, the President, the insurance companies, and the wealthy who can afford all the health care they need! Do what is right for the country - work in a bi-partisan way with the Democrats to create a true healthcare system that serves everyone!

- Janice MacKenzie

[REDACTED]
Sellersville, PA 18960

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Bayard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because a healthcare system that potentially reduces coverage is unethical particularly in a developed and privileged society. Trying to win points by imposing legislation without bipartisan support will only unleash the fallout of Karma later on. Please be ethical ! Take the high road and fix the Affordable Care Act. Emphasize its qualities and amend its flaws. In doing so, you may show Americans that Congress actually has a purpose beyond political posturing and collecting a salary.

David Bayard

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hovis, Guy L [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear Senators of the USA:

There is one message that the Republican Party has been sending to Americans from your multiple votes to eliminate the ACA, and that is that you do not care about the American people. You only care about big money that will be given to your party if you can eliminate the ACA. You are uncaring and corrupt. How do you sleep at night?

Guy Hovis
Easton, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsay McCormick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I just graduate college and cannot afford healthcare with the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Lindsay McCormick

Landenberg, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I depend on affordable, quality healthcare, now more than ever. Six years ago I was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune condition that challenges my mobility and vision on a daily basis. Happily, I am able to continue to engage in meaningful work, remaining an independent, productive member of society. Without coverage for multiple prescriptions for glaucoma drops, I will surely go blind. Without my other medication, I may lose the ability to walk.

I believe quality, affordable healthcare should be a Right and not a Priveledge.

Most people do not realize the reason their premiums may have gone up is due to the fact that Obamacare universally Improves coverage.

You don't know that your vision-saving drops are not included in your coverage until you need them.

Please take a bipartisan approach, working together to improve Obamacare. And please, Please, Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Donna Racz
Yardley, Pennsylvania

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Kamp [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concern about Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family (and thousands of others) relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. For the protection of coverage for pre-existing conditions alone I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jane Kamp

Havertown, PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Hyatt Cooper [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My husband and I have been on individual insurance since 2011. It was a nightmare before the ACA, and it's been a nightmare since, but the Graham-Cassidy bill will only make it worse.

We are one of those households whose income hovers right around the cut-off point for subsidies. If you make just over the cut-off point in my county, the very least expensive plan you can get costs something like a fifth of your income, and the high deductible makes you liable for another fifth of your income. Does anyone think 40% of anyone's income is a reasonable amount to devote to health care? Yet the costs are sure to go even higher when waivers are granted to states allowing them to charge more for pre-existing conditions. My state, Pennsylvania, can't even enact a budget that covers its constitutionally mandated obligation to public education, so it certainly will not be devoting tax dollars to upper-middle-class health care.

None of the Republican plans, including Graham-Cassidy, has promised to improve the quality or affordability of health care. If the ACA is bad, why make it even worse? The only ethical course is to go with a plan that actually improves health care in this country. Please drop Graham-Cassidy and start working on a bipartisan solution.

Thank you.

Lisa Hyatt Cooper
Bryn Athyn PA 19009

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Wyckoff [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Dear Senators,

The ACA has been integral to my family's health and financial wellbeing since its inception. My husband has a genetic kidney disease that always precluded him from purchasing health insurance prior to the ACA. He is a software developer and although he's always employed, the nature of the project-driven work means employers do not always offer health insurance benefits. I have my own business. Through the marketplace, we pay \$1200/month for coverage for our family of four. Yes, this is a huge expense for us. But we know without coverage we could face financial ruin.

You are elected to serve all your constituents not just the people who voted for you. Please remember this when most Americans want to keep the ACA's protections and are asking you to work in a bipartisan fashion to help lower costs and improve the act, not to destroy it. I stand with them and implore you to work toward this goal.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Wyckoff
Doylestown, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kirsten martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committe:

I am horrified about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal! It will harm our senior citizens, our veterans, and many other vulnerable Americans. This is the wrong bill to make changes to the ACA. Find some other way, but don't hurt our people in the process!

Thank you,
Kirsten Martin

Kirsten martin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Maher [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom it may concern:

My family needs quality, affordable healthcare. My daughter works full-time and very hard, but her employment does not cover health care. She has been able to access affordable healthcare through the ACA. Because of this, and for the sake of many other people, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

With all my heart, I would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Donna Maher

Media, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Libby Rosof [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee Members:

I am imploring you to consider the effects of Graham-Cassidy. My grandson, born with cataracts, would be completely blind without the coverage his family has under ACA. Under Graham-Cassidy, his ongoing care, which allows him to see, would be threatened by withdrawal of guarantees of coverage for pre-existing conditions and would also be threatened by the ensuing chaos in the healthcare state markets. Without the ongoing coverage and care, he will lose his ability to see. Your actions affect the lives of so many. Please, please take a step back and block the bill, created with too little forethought and with a lack of bipartisanship. Thanks to one of your own members, Sen. Chuck Grassley, for the following quote, which just about sums up the reason why this bill is moving forward--and why it shouldn't: "I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered. But Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That's pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill."

Sincerely yours,
Libby Rosof
4217 Osage Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19104

--
libby rososof
Board of Directors and co-founder, theartblog.org
Emeritus co-editor--contact Roberta Fallon, [REDACTED] with your tips
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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carpenter Family [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Will Carpenter
Subject: Affordable Care Act

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband has a pre-existing condition so we are worried that without a guarantee of affordable coverage we would not be able to afford healthcare for our family. Insurance companies are not hurting financially; middle class families are. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Renell Carpenter

Bethlehem, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lou Phillips [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Senators,

Healthcare is too important to be impacted by a bill whose financial impact is unclear. As Sen McCain said, the topic needs regular order and bipartisan input.

I'm 75, a consistent voter since 1964, and a careful student of politics since I started reading newspapers in 1950. I've consistently followed the workings of my government ever since. In that time, I've seen a lot of political manipulation, but the lack of regular order of this current Senate is simply shameful.

Peace,
Lou
Phillips
Philadelphia PA

"It is good to have an end to journey towards, but it's the journey that matters in the end." UK LeGuin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Rooney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill - My medical Story and Costs
Attachments: Maureen Kessler April 2005.jpg

Good Day,

I am a permanently disabled ruptured brain aneurysm survivor. A grade 5 SAH caused a severe brain injury that left me permanently disabled in March 2005. My first two neurosurgeries cost over \$1 million. Aetna, then the #1 healthcare insurer, denied coverage on my inpatient acute and sub acute rehab which forced me into assisted living for 96 days, wearing a helmet to protect my brain while awaiting cranioplasty.. My next COBRA carrier United Health Care increased my ninthly individual COBRA premium from \$259 to \$2890 in 2007, a \$2,000% increase. When I became eligible for Medicare my 3 neurological medications each cost \$2,000 during the MediGap. The ACA closed the gap. My medication is now \$21 for each 90 day refill. Stroke, permanent disability and severe brain injury are preexisting medical conditions.

I am the patient with preexisting conditions who was denied the interventions that might have helped me return to work. I have made good progress, but it might have been remarkable progress if my insurers had done the right thing by funding my early PT, OT and speech therapy. I never missed a premium payment. don't judge by cost. Judge by quality of life and recovery. Insurers increase their profits by denying benefits.

Please join the effort to improve the ACA and guarantee affordable major medical and preventive care for all in PA and USA.

Maureen Rooney
Philadelphia, PA
USA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dilruba (Ruba) Ahmed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has relied on affordable health care to survive cancer and to treat pre-existing conditions such as diabetes. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruba Ahmed
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chittur Ananthan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Coverage for my 18-year old son with Autism

Honorable members of the US Senate,

As the father of a 18-year old son with Autism, I am watching with trepidation the incessant push to pass the bill popularly known as Graham-Cassidy bill.

As you ponder this proposed legislation, please remember that without the provisions of the Affordable Care Act, my wife and I would find it nearly impossible to provide for the medical treatment and therapies such as Speech and Occupational therapy that my son needs.

My son, along with tens of millions of other Americans with intellectual and physical disabilities, and various forms of mental illnesses, represent the most vulnerable segment of our population.

As parents, my wife and I are doing everything within our power and means to help our son. Over the last several years, the Affordable Care Act has been a major source of assistance for our son.

Please do not take it away from him. He needs your empathy and compassion. I hope that the honorable members of the US Senate, an august body, will put aside political differences and work to really do something good for our most vulnerable citizens.

Yesterday, I left a message with an aide to Senator Rick Toomey, my senator from the State of Pennsylvania. I explained to the aide about my son and his needs.

It is my sincere hope that the Senate will take into consideration the genuine and critical needs of individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities when debating the Graham-Cassidy bill.

In a desire to repeal the Affordable Care Act, please do not take away critical support that individuals like my son so desperately need.

Sincerely,

Chittur B Ananthan

[REDACTED] Allentown, PA 18104

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Weist [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Wendy Weist
[REDACTED]
Lansdale, PA 19446
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Prutzman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare in the USA

My family depends on quality healthcare. Whether it is my own preexisting condition (a knee replacement!) or my grandson's disability (cerebral palsy) we need to fix what is wrong with the ACA NOT take coverage away from my family and millions of other Americans with the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I have much more confidence in a bi-partisan approach to fixing the ACA. Please consider my voice.

Sincerely,

Barbara Prutzman

Haverford, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phyllis Sander [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

Phyllis Sander

[REDACTED] Pennsylvania
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Jane Dougherty [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Like millions of other Americans, my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I did not have any health insurance for five years before the ACA was passed, and my doctors told me that I came to them just in time to catch a potentially life-threatening thyroid condition. Without the ACA, I would not be healthy today. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Betsy Jane Dougherty
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19145
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: GF Boyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment

My spouse and I rely on the health insurance we've obtained through the ACA. Because of this, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, since estimates show that my spouse's pre-existing conditions would add an additional \$13,000 plus per year to our insurance bill, which is already very high. The Graham-Cassidy bill would make it impossible for us to have health insurance at all. I want Congress to work on a bipartisan effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not to repeal it.

Thank you,
Gloria Boyer
Carlisle, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emma Cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:31 AM
To: gchcomments

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare (not to mention the fact that I believe access to healthcare should be free for all... we are eons behind our peer countries in Europe and elsewhere). Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Of course, I have my personal health care story-- I had cancer when I was 13 and have always been anxious that, if given the chance, Republicans would make it more difficult to get healthcare in the future because of my history. The ACA let me breathe a sigh of relief. What's more, if my family hadn't had insurance, I'm not sure how we would have covered even a day of chemotherapy, let alone months of it. A small biopsy cost me \$12,000 before insurance... yes, my family was lucky enough to have two employed and insured adults, but what if we hadn't? Would I not still have deserved to receive life-saving treatment? Or are we reverting back to survival of the fittest, comfortable with a 13 year old dying if she doesn't come from a financially stable family? Cuts to medicare imply that, deep down, this is how many of our politicians feel. The ACA comes closer to ensuring that all Americans have health insurance, which to me is vital. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Emma
Haverford, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Florence Zeller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:35 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My sister-in-law, a hard-working nurse, has rheumatoid arthritis and without the Affordable Care Act could not obtain health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Florence Zeller

Haverford, PA 19041

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Abell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I **oppose** the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Robin Abell
Haverford, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susanna Sonnenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because my husband and I are both self employed. We cannot get health insurance through an employer. This proposed bill will raise our insurance premiums so high that we cannot afford insurance and then the two of us and our 13 year old daughter will be uninsured. We currently do not receive any subsidies for our health insurance. We pay \$734 a month and have a high deductible too. Our monthly mortgage payment is \$1225, so we already pay over half of our mortgage payment for health insurance. Instead of trying to repeal Obamacare, fix it and improve it to work for more people. Throwing 30 Million people off of health insurance makes no sense. You were elected to do and represent what the people want. Do not vote for this bill!!!

Sincerely,

Susanna Sonnenberg

Susanna Sonnenberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Rubenson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate becausemillions will lose health care. People with severe disabilities and older people in particular are adversely affected. While the ACA may not be perfect, it's because health insurers need to be reformed. This proposal makes no improvements and only addresses tax concerns of the rich.

Lynn Rubenson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this is not going to improve healthcare access, quality or get healthcare costs under control. This bill smacks of pure political expediency. Return to regular order and find bipartisan ways to fix the core problem which is stabilizing the exchanges. Thank you.

Carolyn Nelson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bernadette Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

Bernadette Clark

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kara Wexler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

I am a productive, tax-paying citizen, and, like so many others, a person with a preexisting condition. The ACA has allowed people like myself to more fully contribute to our society and our economy. I am strongly against repealing the ACA.

Sincerely,

Kara Wexler

Pipersville, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karin Redman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA healthcare

Hello.

My family relies on affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is that my husband runs a small business and our premiums keep going up. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Karin Petroll

Downingtown, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: denise maiden [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is a step backwards when so many constituents need the current health care. I would go so far as to say it is time for universal health care, just like the rest of the developed world. We can no longer turn our backs on our own citizens in need. Please do the right thing and vote no on this horrible bill.

Denise Maiden

denise maiden

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Conti [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....
Pre-existing conditions, family planning, nursing homes would all be negatively effected. Stop this hateful plan

Marie Conti

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glenda Heyd [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this country is becoming a third world country with no access to healthcare. Republicans and Democrats need to work together to guarantee healthcare for all. Insurance only works if everyone is covered. If we can rebuild every country we go to war with but cannot provide for our own people we should just give up any notion that we lead the world...and that is what is happening. To quote the president "So sad."

Glenda Heyd

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Spangler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill - no CBO score

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a concerned citizen and am appalled by the rush to vote on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. There has been no open debate in Congress, and there is no full CBO score.

In addition, this bill does NOT provide federal protections for those of us who have pre-existing conditions.

Please reject this bill.

Kind regards,
Lori Spangler
Churchville PA 18966

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Diamond [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comment

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is I have two young adult daughters who both have serious mental health disorders. They must have affordable, accessible, quality healthcare for the rest of their lives. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Theresa Diamond
Malvern, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Light [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will hurt the American people, while lining the pockets of insurance companies and those who invest in those companies. Thousands of people will lose their healthcare due to high premiums. Those with pre-existing illness will not have the money to carry the insurance needed due to the high costs. THOUSANDS WILL DIE! Are you that insensitive, greedy and politically motivated that you would risk the lives of those people who elected you! I am not that naive to think my statement will matter, but I will never give up fighting for the values that I have always believed in, no matter what.

There was a time you were decent human beings. To find that again and fight for the Americans you represent!

Thank you!!

Beth H. Light

Beth Light

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Forman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: How Graham-Cassidy would affect me

I am a mental health practitioner. A number of my patients are young and the only healthcare they can get is through the ACA, for which each of them is very grateful. If this bill goes through their physical and mental health would be in serious jeopardy. And if the President thinks that the opioid epidemic is a crisis, which it is, it will only become more of a crisis if addicts are cut off from health benefits.

In addition, while I am fortunate enough to be 70 years old and am enjoying fantastic healthcare through Medicare, my son and daughter-in-law are working in a field where it is difficult to obtain healthcare through an employer. They have benefited enormously from the ACA.

So doesn't it make sense to make a bipartisan effort to improve an existing system which basically works and will work even better with some tweaks and small improvements? There are even some senators who are trying to do that already so let's support that. When the AMA and even health care insurance companies oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill you know it is not good. And trying to sabotage the existing system is cruel and financially unsupportable.

There is no point discussing the moral aspects of this since some people only understand money. Since there is no time for the CBO to score this heinous bill, one can assume that the rich will be getting richer and the poor and middle class will be getting sicker and dying. Is this the United States of America anymore?

Sincerely,

Wendy Forman, Ph.D.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shelley Spector [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with [Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, etc.] is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you

Shelley Spector
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19147

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No tax break for medical device companies. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

Perhaps if millions of Americans lose healthcare coverage, these companies won't need that tax break--because millions of us won't be able to afford the cost of using their devices anyway!

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Sharon Williams
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NORRISTOWN, Pennsylvania 19401

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherri Metzger [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA Repeal bill

Please, please, please. Stop this repeal bill. I have family members who will DIE if they lose their medicaid. I'm begging you.

Sherri Bursey-Metzger
Norwood, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Traci Borsch [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the Record, re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

THIS BILL NEEDS TO BE PUT OUT OF ITS MISERY!

This latest GOP bill (note this is all the doing of the Republicans since they refuse a bipartisan approach ... unlike the Affordable Care Act which sorry Senator McCain ... was months and lots of back and forth occurred so you can't say the bill was rammed through <http://affordablehealthca.com/timeline-obamacare/>) is the worst one yet. To think that people don't read, don't do their homework and don't understand the issues is your first mistake. And then lying on top of it is unconscionable.

I am a woman-business owner with two kids. Having been pregnant is my pre-existing condition and before the ACA, I had to pay more. My husband and my boys could get great coverage ... not me.

You are planning on taking away women's health support, allowing insurance companies to charge more for pre-existing conditions and making it acceptable to have caps plus other atrocities all in the name of repeal. Please — for the love of humanity — get over yourselves. NOBODY cares that you hate Democrats and President Obama. Nobody cares about your promises to repeal and replace. You only want to repeal because it wasn't your bill ... which is about as childish as you can get. And you have no decent replacement.

Can the ACA be improved? Yes. But guess what despite your hate, it works. And your feeble and impotent attempts at what you think is a good bill are so far from what most people want, that it is laughable.

Stop it now. NO TO GRAHAM-CASSIDY. NO TO REPEAL. YES TO BIPARTISAN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ACA.

Please grow up. Your president is not fit for the position, but you don't have to lower yourself to that level.

Sincerely,

A Pre-Existing Condition
Woman
Business Owner
Mother
Fighter

Traci Borsch
Gibsonia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Uhler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Congressmen and women:

I am writing this message to tell you that I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If it were not for the Health Care Exchange and, while I was a graduate student, the Medicaid expansion, I would not have been able to access the medications and care I need to function at both work and school. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Katlyn M. Uhler

Registered and active voter

Kennett Square, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Simmons [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son works very hard to support his family of 5. He would not be able to have healthcare coverage for himself and his children with this bill. I rely on Medicare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,
Susan Simmons
Philadelphia PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margot Stein [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare vote

I am a constituent in Pennsylvania. My 15 year old son has autism and relies on Medicaid and other supports to make sure that he can grow into a functioning member of the adult community. We rely on school, therapies and other services. He is doing so well and is beloved by many. It would be inhumane to remove services from people like my son, who cannot thrive without support.

In addition, my oldest son was diagnosed with a rare pediatric cancer just before his 21st birthday, and the Affordable Care Act is what enabled him to stay on my insurance for the duration of his treatment. He died at the age of 24. Without the ACA, we would have been bankrupt as well as bereft. He was brilliant and had a promising career ahead of him in public service when his life was cut short.

If you are in a human body, you are going to need health care. Imagine my torment if I had been denied insurance coverage for each treatment we tried, when trying to save my precious son's life over a four-year period. Imagine the pain and suffering of hundreds of thousands of families, soon to be millions of American families, because they live in the richest country on earth yet they cannot afford life-saving treatment for the ones they love because greed has become the guiding principle of this country.

Greed. Admit it. It's ugly and it's one of the big sins for a reason. It puts money and politics ahead of human life. All the greatest people, the leaders who endure, know that compassion for all beings is the highest value, the one core value that should guide our toughest decisions.

Get your priorities straight. Value human life, value the greatest good for the most people.

Or risk becoming one of the most reviled nations on earth.

The choice is in your hands.

Sincerely,
Margot Stein
Bala Cynwyd, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Knox [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No repeal of ACA!!!! No to Cassidy-Graham!!!!

Cassidy Graham would deprive millions of health care. Please don't approve it.
Andrea Knox, Swarthmore PA. I vote in every election.
Sent from [TypeApp](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mary anne casey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill is terrible for humans. And must be stopped. Don't repeal Obamacare. Obama cared (and still does, btw).

That is all.

Mary Anne Casey
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19107

p.s. Pat Toomey is a jerk.

mary anne casey | 917.312.4122 | olivet@gd.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nilufar Jamir [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

Dear Senators:

I/my family/my community rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many Bangladeshi's benefit from Medicaid, pre-existing conditions coverage, disabilities coverage, etc that have been made possible by the ACA. My friend's daughter has lifelong disabilities and currently resides in a nursing home. The Graham-Cassidy Bill threatens the assistance received by the nursing home, making my friends daughters care precarious. These are middle class people who would not be able to take care of their dear ones without the ACA. I believe most Americans would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please consider the people who are affected and the wishes of most of your constituents. This new Bill should not be considered for a few or for the ego and political face saving gain of any party.

I urge our Senator's to make this a bipartisan effort. We are tired of congressional bickering, pride, ego and manipulation of ordinary citizens for mere political gains. This is what drove people to vote for Donald Trump, who many and most decent Republicans outside and within Congress know is not the President we deserve.

Sincerely,

Nilufar Jamir
Newtown Square, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debra Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

My family faced the difficult and expensive problem of affordable care for my father who suffered from Alzheimers. We took care of him at home as long as possible, but eventually we were physically unable to care for him at home. We had no choice but to find a skilled nursing facility, and if not for Medicaid, we would have faced severe financial problems. I know that many nursing home patients rely on Medicaid support. I would like to see bipartisan Congressional efforts to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Debra Johnson
Clarks Summit, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbra Midkiff [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Sept 25, 2017

Barbra and Jason Midkiff

[REDACTED]
Butler, Pa 16001

[REDACTED]
Sept. 23, 2017
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir or Madam:

We rely on affordable healthcare. Because of this we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our story is that we have pre-existing conditions that are being taken care of now. Without the help of the ACA our premiums will be out of reach and the great possibly the states will not have enough to cover our health care needs. Causing me for one to go through a slow and painful death. There are millions just like us. We would like to see the Bi-partisan bill be restarted as a congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely:

Mrs. Barbra & Jason Midkiff.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ROBERT BICKART [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The draconian Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate should be soundly defeated. Despite false claims, it does not provide protection for those with pre-existing conditions. There is no language to prevent states from allowing insurers to charge such high rates for pre-existing conditions that the facade of insurance can't be used. The bill would take insurance from tens of millions - we don't and won't know how many before the vote because the CBO won't have a score.

ROBERT BICKART

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phillip Herrington [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Phillip Herrington

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mara Wolfgang [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Mara Wolfgang

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Sheridan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Peter Sheridan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Foh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Before we were married, my husband benefitted from the Medicaid expansion in New York and Pennsylvania. As a freelance artist, he did not have access to employer-subsidized healthcare, nor could he have afforded to buy his own private insurance without the Medicaid expansion. Now that we're married, we are trying to have a baby. If the maternity care mandate is revoked, we won't be able to afford healthcare costs associated with pregnancy and childbirth. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julia Foh

State College, PA 16803

--
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Schultz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Toomey Noreply, Patrick (Toomey); Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
Subject: Graham-Cassidy September 25th, 2017 Bill Hearing Statement
Attachments: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Testimony.docx

Attached is my statement sharing my family's health story and our concern with the current effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Should you need clarification or additional information, please contact me via a Reply to this email or by calling [REDACTED].

Many thanks for considering this statement.

With appreciation, Deborah Schultz ([REDACTED] Philadelphia, PA 19107)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Morris [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. John Morris
[REDACTED]
Feasterville, PA 19053
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phyllis Borin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing on Healthcare

My friends and family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this and may other reasons, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I would like to see Congress work together to improve the ACA, not repeal it!

Sincerely,
Phyllis Borin
Elkins Park, PA



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Frydenborg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The Republican attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act has become our real, living undead Resident Evil. The problem is that this effort is not a fiction. Millions of real, living Americans are being threatened with actual loss of their health insurance, including many of the sickest persons with severe chronic illnesses.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans.

Mark Frydenborg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Stewartstown, Pennsylvania 17363

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Jordan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I don't have a sob story about how the ACA offered me or one of my family members life-saving care, or rescued us from bankruptcy... but I could. And that is the point. We should not have to listen to heart-wrenching story after heart-wrenching story from people whose lives were changed for the better by the protections offered by the Affordable Care Act:

those with pre-existing conditions who were denied care, those forced to stay at their jobs rather than following their dreams of starting a new business, those who were charged higher rates due to their gender or age, or those who had reached whatever arbitrary cap on lifetime coverage and whose lives were apparently not worth access to care any more. Any one of us could be involved in a car accident and need immediate access to emergency care. Any one of our parents, or children, or neighbors, could be stricken with a rare cancer or disease that needs costly treatment. Any one of us could face mental illness or drug addiction and only be able to get their lives back on track with treatment or counseling. By allowing states to claim a waiver for coverage of these and other "Essential Health Benefits", our ability to access healthcare would be dependent on a lottery and many people would see these protections disappear.

If you don't think that we as a society should be responsible for ensuring our friends, families and neighbors can access affordable and effective health coverage, then please consider the fiscal arguments against the Graham-Cassidy bill. The American Academy of Actuaries cautioned that in the short term, "premiums would likely increase, enrollment would likely decline, and more insurers may withdraw from the market." They further warn that it seems unlikely that states would have the time and ability to create, market and implement a new system by 2020, when block grants made to the states would replace the current system. They further caution "Unless the funds allocated in the proposal are used to create stable markets by maintaining a level playing field for insurers and achieving a balanced risk pool, GCHJ would likely lead to higher individual market premiums, lower enrollment, eroded protections for those with preexisting conditions, lower insurer participation, and more unstable markets than under current law."

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities notes that Graham-Cassidy would "cause many millions of people to lose coverage, radically restructure and deeply cut Medicaid, eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and increase out-of-pocket costs for individual market consumers." Making draconian cuts to Medicaid would be a terrible mistake: this is a program that covers seniors, low-income families and children, people with disabilities, and does it in a way that is highly cost-effective. Medicaid helps people who need longterm services stay in their own homes rather than being moved to costly residential facilities. Medicaid offers preventative services like cholesterol screenings, and diagnosis of (and treatment) for diabetes, which lowers costs by reducing poor health outcomes like heart attacks or diabetes-related amputations.

Because states would receive funding via block grants, and these grants would come nowhere near to meeting the needs for most states, states would have to decide to either offer less coverage to each person, or to exclude certain conditions or treatments, state by state, meaning again that people's ability to access life-saving services would be decided, basically, by a lottery based on birthplace or state of residence. In a country that is supposed to be one of the world's most wealthy, in fact more than half of Americans have less than \$1,000 in savings. Where does this put them if premiums increase, coverage or medication they need is excluded from their state's insurance plan, or if they have experience a health-related catastrophe?


The Congressional Budget Office will not have time to fully analyze the potential ramifications of this bill before September 30th, and that alone should caution the Senate Finance Committee on proceeding:

"CBO will not be able to provide point estimates of the effects on the deficit, health insurance coverage, or premiums for at least several weeks." It seems to me that attempts to rush this bill through, without a complete understanding of its effects on coverage or premium rates, is a dereliction of duty. This bill should also be going through a full committee debate and mark-up in the Senate Committee for Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, rather than this rushed and secretive attempt to pass a flawed bill that will leave more people unable to access or afford care. Please focus on a bipartisan approach that will bring real and positive change to our healthcare system, and especially consider the changes urged by Senator Collins and Senator Nelson to stabilize the exchanges and subsidize high-risk pools. This approach has been backed by Republican and Democratic governors and would actually help solve some of the problems caused by the ACA rather than creating an entirely new batch of problems to solve.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kim Jordan


Philadelphia, PA 19125

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sallie Welte [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear sir/ madam,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My adult nephew Joel Penninger has significant disabilities, both intellectual and physical. He lives in North Carolina where he grew up. Because he is unable to live independently, he lives with my deceased sister's second husband who is retired and who has many health problems himself. They have no legal relationship as Joel was an adult when my sister re-married. Together they just barely get by financially, and Joel relies on his social security benefit payment and Medicare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sallie Welte

West Chester, PA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Somers [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy!! STOP REPEALING/START IMPROVING!

Heartless, vindictive, cruel...no other way to explain Republicans' multiple attempts to gut health care – and Graham-Cassidy is the worst as it pits states against each other. HEALTH CARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT!! IT SHOULDN'T MATTER WHICH STATE WE LIVE IN, WHETHER WE HAVE PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS, HOW MUCH MONEY WE HAVE OR HOW OLD WE ARE!

We are **IMPLORING** you to stop putting party over people and money over morality! FIX THE ACA for the love of God instead of trying to score political points! We are ALL paying attention – and we vote, too!
L.S. Pennsylvania citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Brouwer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill

We Americans do not support the killing of our fellow Americans because they can't afford health insurance and care. This is not what America is about. This bill does not care about the least of us not to mention the rest of us.

Kindest Regards, Gail Brouwer
York PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Vasellas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham

I am sure that you are extremely aware of how toxic the Cassidy-Graham bill is to American citizens. Yes, I know you are getting pressure from your donors and D.T.. If my sister's leukemia medication gets even more expensive, I will hold you responsible! Put people above party!

Kathy D. Vasellas
Mountville, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: The Johnson's [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Grahman-Kennedy plan

Hello,

"It is appalling the Graham-Kennedy Plan does not prevent insurance companies from charging more for pre-existing conditions or from instituting a lifetime cap. I urge you to consider the opinions of experts including the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association ("This bill harms our most vulnerable patients"), the American Public Health Association ("Graham-Cassidy would devastate the Medicaid program, increase out-of-pocket costs, and weaken or eliminate protections for people living with pre-existing conditions"), the National Institute for Reproductive Health ("the Graham-Cassidy bill preys on underserved communities ... a clear and present danger"), and Federation of American Hospitals ("It could disrupt access to health care for millions of the more than 70 million Americans") and do not allow this bill in its present form to pass the Senate."

I have 2 adult children this would affect greatly. My husband and I are both coming to retirement age and it would affect us also if we loose funding that helps us support our children.

Thank you,

Patti and Mel Johnson
[REDACTED]
Ashland, Pa 17921

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Shaddock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. Repealing the ACA simply because Republicans promised to repeal it is a disservice to our citizens. What about the other half of the promise to replace it with something better? This bill will hurt those most in need and is being rushed through without proper thought or consideration simply for political expediency.

Please vote no and start working together in Congress to find a solution that truly meets the needs of all U.S. citizens.

We must do better.

Sincerely,

William Shaddock
Malvern, PA 19355

William Shaddock
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mandy Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because for one, I thought that by now your constituents have made it abundantly clear how much it means to us to have access to affordable, quality health care. This is an issue that crosses party lines, and is about the only thing that most Americans can seem to agree on, regardless of our political affiliations. Don't think that we'll forget your decision on this matter, and we'll vote accordingly.

Mandy Moore

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Paddock [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: no to Graham Cassidy

Dear Finance Committee,

Before I was old enough to be on Medicare, I was denied insurance coverage for pre-existing conditions. Today I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Susan Paddock
[REDACTED]

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Philip Nahrgang [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have several pre-existing mental and physical health conditions. I'm currently on SSDI as a direct result of some of these conditions. I want to see the Republicans work with the Democrats on a bipartisan solution to our current health care quandry.

Thank you,
Philip Nahrgang
Huntingdon Valley, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because

....
As a glaucoma patient I have a pre-existing condition and could be denied coverage. Three of my children have benefited from the AHA. One had a tumor and had to wait until it passed to be treated. We were fortunate that it was benign. Work with Congress to improve the AHA, not destroy. My family will be watching and we all vote.
Thank you for listening.

Judith Murphy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Connie Hershey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

Connie Hershey

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal and Replace

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) until you are ready to replace it with a national single-payer health care system.

In the meantime, feel free to repeal Medicare, Part C, Medicare Advantage. We need to get for-profit insurance companies out of our health care. Medicare Advantage is a good place to start!

Patricia Taylor
[REDACTED]
Harrisburg, PA 17109
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debra Bernstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Scheduling, Collins (Collins); contact@toomey.senate.gov; scheduling@mccain.senate.gov; contact@mcconnell.senate.gov; Alexander, Scheduling (Alexander)
Subject: Death Panels - That's what this legislation is - One. Giant. Death. Panel.

Senators Collins, McCain, McConnell, Toomey, Alexander and the team collecting comments on Graham Cassidy-

This bill is nothing short of a disaster. As a cancer survivor I should never have to live in fear of being able to get health insurance or healthcare that is not prohibitively expensive. The enormous negative impact on many states, including my own home state of Pennsylvania (you really want to kill Pennsylvanians Mr. Toomey??) is tremendous. States that took Medicaid expansion seriously and worked to cover their residents are being disproportionately harmed as if they are being punished for doing the right thing.

I get it, the Republicans are dead set on undoing anything that was done by the Obama administration because President Obama was black. This legislation, and the many other ones that have been swirling around are rooted in racism and the laser focused desire to enhance the lives of wealthy, white men.

This bill is wrong and bad for the American people. You have one job and that is to serve the people of our fine nation and you are failing if you vote for this bill. Period. Do. Your. Job.

Regards,

Debra S. Bernstein
Wyncote, PA

Just in case you were not aware of the many health care organizations that agree that this bill is awful, this piece from Vox.com might help:

Here's a roundup of what leading health organizations have said about the Graham-Cassidy Bill:

American Medical Association

"...the Graham-Cassidy Amendment fails to match this vision and violates the precept of "first do no harm." Similar to proposals that were considered in the Senate in July, we believe the Graham-Cassidy Amendment would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage, destabilize health insurance markets, and decrease access to affordable coverage and care."

American Academy of Pediatrics

"I [Fernando Stein, president, American Academy of Pediatrics] must speak out against this dangerous, ill-conceived policy on behalf of our 66,000 pediatrician, pediatric surgical specialist and pediatric medical sub-specialist members, and stop it from advancing.

"This bill may be disguised under a different name, but it contains the same dangerous policies as the legislation that failed to advance out of the Senate earlier this summer. In fact, Graham-Cassidy goes even further in its attacks on Medicaid."

AARP

"Overall, the Graham/Cassidy/Heller/Johnson bill would increase health care costs for older Americans with an age tax, decrease coverage, and undermine preexisting condition protections. In addition, this bill would jeopardize the ability of older Americans and people with disabilities to stay in their own homes as they age and threaten coverage for individuals in nursing homes."

Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

"The [Graham-Cassidy] bill contains provisions that would allow states to waive key consumer protections, as well as undermine safeguards for those with pre-existing medical conditions. The legislation reduces funding for many states significantly and would increase uncertainty in the marketplace, making coverage more expensive and jeopardizing Americans' choice of health plans. Legislation must also ensure adequate funding for Medicaid to protect the most vulnerable."

Planned Parenthood

"The Graham-Cassidy bill is a serious threat to the health care of millions of Americans. This bill is the worst Obamacare repeal bill yet: Millions of Planned Parenthood patients could lose their health care if the Graham-Cassidy bill were to pass — millions more would lose their coverage through Medicaid, and could lose essentials like maternity care and coverage for prescription drugs. Policy on women's health care should not be written by a small group of male politicians behind closed doors. Enough is enough. With this latest version of Trumpcare, Americans will pay more and get less, but women will pay the biggest price of all."

Kaiser Permanente

"At Kaiser Permanente, we believe that changes to our nation's health care laws should increase access to high-quality, affordable care and coverage for as many people as possible. The Graham-Cassidy bill does not meet any of those tests.

"The block grant proposal in the bill would erode coverage of needed medical services and pose major issues for state budgets. Repealing the individual mandate without alternative incentives for enrollment will lead to fewer people enrolled and higher premiums."

America's Health Insurance Plans

"[The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal] would have real consequences on consumers and patients by further destabilizing the individual market; cutting Medicaid; pulling back on protections for preexisting conditions; not ending taxes on health insurance premiums and benefits; and potentially allowing government-controlled, single payer health care to grow."

American Heart Association and 16 other patient and provider groups

“Affordable, adequate care is *vital* to the patients we represent. This legislation fails to provide Americans with what they need to maintain their health. In fact, much of the proposal just repackages the problematic provisions of the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), which we opposed. Fortunately, the BCRA was voted down by Congress earlier this year.”

Association of American Medical Colleges

“During the long debate regarding health care reform, the nation’s medical schools and teaching hospitals have continually advocated for a number of key principles as fundamental cornerstones of any successful health care system. These principles include offering high-quality, affordable health insurance to all; preserving and fortifying the safety net through Medicaid and other policies; and encouraging innovation in the delivery system, among others.

“The current proposal does not meet these principles and will almost surely lead to dramatic increases in the number of uninsured patients nationwide and put important existing patient protections at risk. Additionally, a proposal like this—a complete overhaul of the health care system—should be fully and adequately examined by the Congressional Budget Office before it is brought to a vote.”

HIV Medicine Association

Senators Cassidy and Graham’s proposal, like the ACA repeal proposals before it, would put the health and lives of tens of thousands of persons living with HIV at risk. We appeal once more to our senators to stop once and for all efforts to repeal the ACA and turn to improving rather than dismantling critical health coverage reforms.

The Alzheimer’s Association and Alzheimer’s Impact Movement

“The proposed changes to Medicaid outlined in the Graham-Cassidy Amendment could have a drastic impact on this vulnerable population given that more than 1 in 4 seniors with Alzheimer’s and other dementias are currently on Medicaid. The Alzheimer’s Association and AIM are also alarmed by the potential impact of this legislation on Americans living with pre-existing conditions, including the 200,000 Americans living with younger-onset Alzheimer’s.”

American Cancer Society

“Our analysis indicates the bill could allow insurers to:

- Charge cancer patients and survivors far higher rates to make coverage unaffordable
- Eliminate coverage for cancer care in their health plans
- Re-institute arbitrary caps on annual and lifetime coverage”

National Association of Medicaid Directors

“Our members are committed to ensuring that the programs we operate improve health outcomes while also being fiscally responsible to state and federal taxpayers. In order to succeed, however, these efforts must be undertaken in a thoughtful, deliberative, and responsible way. We are concerned that this legislation would undermine these efforts in many states and fail to deliver on our collective goal of an improved health care system.”

American Hospital Association

“This proposal would erode key protections for patients and consumers and does nothing to stabilize the insurance market now or in the long term. In addition, the block grant to provide support for the expansion population expires in 2026, thereby eliminating coverage for millions of Americans.

For these reasons, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy plan.”

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

“ACOG condemns the latest effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act by ignoring regular order and rushing the harmful Graham-Cassidy bill to a vote. This latest effort is the most dangerous bill to date, threatening to strip health care from millions of Americans and end Medicaid as we know it.”

Children’s Hospital Association

“The nation’s children’s hospitals stand in strong opposition to the most recent legislative proposal introduced by Sens. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., Bill Cassidy, R-La., Dean Heller, R-Nev., and Ron Johnson, R-Wis. Their legislation would slash funding for Medicaid, the nation’s largest health care program for children, by one-third, reducing access and coverage for more than 30 million children in the program.”

Public Health Institute

“The Graham-Cassidy proposal is just as bad as previous versions of ACA repeal—it would eliminate the Prevention and Public Health Fund, gut Medicaid funding, weaken current protections for people with pre-existing conditions and make meaningful coverage unaffordable for many.”

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: carol levy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. Senator Graham was right when he complained in May that the House bill had not gone through the proper procedures. What was true then should still be true yet Senator Graham wants to push through this bill without CBO scoring. Despite the lack of that full score there is no question this bill will leave millions without insurance.

The lie that pre-existing will be covered is that - a lie. As it stands with those bills those such as myself with a preexisting neurological condition could get insurance but without the limits set out in the ACA it may well become unaffordable. President Trump ran on the statement "everyone will be insured" This bill insures that that will not be the case. Please put the country and the people first and vote No on this bill Thank you

carol levy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pauline Hoffman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Please vote against the Graham -Cassidy health bill. It is not what the American people deserve or want. Just Repealing Obama Care, just to get it done any way.. is not what needs to be done. Fixing the Current system or creating Healthcare for All is what most Americans really want. Keep the vote shut down until its a plan for All Americans.

My husband age 62 and myself 53, have worked hard our whole lives. I have been disabled for a few years and hv difficulties walking and moving because of debilitating atrthritis.I have Medicare. It does not cover all but its better than nothing.. But deeper cuts would really hurt hard, and make it useless except in the case of a catastrophic illness.

My husband was injured on his job 2 years ago. He had to stop working and we hv lost so much. He fought it in the system. And after 2 years we are still fighting workers comp. But with out medicade he would not hv gotten the surgery or life saving medical needs met with out that option. He recently was onformed he is being let go from his employer and we are on very limited income now. Even less as short term disability has stopped. With out medicade my husband could not afford his life saving meds. His surgery had complications. And now he will never work again. If he looses his medicade he will die. I dont feel the Republicans are willing to get out of the pockets of the big insurance co long enough to see how much this hurts rhe very people they serve. You serve the people of the United States. Not the insurance co looking to profit off the backs of the middle class and poor. Who actually end up pating more because they cant afford the insurance and tgey pay with an early death or poor qauality of life.

We live in rural Southwestern PA. We live around all Trump Republicans. But our neighbor's may hv voted for Him. But this is not what they want. They are mostly farmers. This would devastate most of their Familys as well. Thank you.

#RESIST

Pauline Hoffman.
[REDACTED]

Volant, PA 16156

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanne Reese [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate becauseI feel that the cuts over time to Medicare will so negatively impact our most vulnerable--kids and adults with disabilities,people who are retired and the elderly,and children. Folks who are poor will lose big over time. And you of all people know how hard we advocates for these populations have worked in SE Pennsylvania. Keep our people safe and with good health care. Letting states control health care is a disaster waiting to happen. No consistency on pre existing conditions and caps. No coverage of basic health care could happen. This is a short sighted bill with not enough research and insight into the complexity of good health care. Other countries have made it work. Why can't you make it work in America?

Jeanne Reese

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vincent Hron [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I believe that it is an expression of evil intent because it will needlessly increase the physical and economic suffering of millions of Americans. If this bill passes, people will go bankrupt who would not have gone bankrupt and people will die who would not have died.

Act in the best interests of the American people; REJECT GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Vince Hron
Pennsylvania, 17889

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Seth Kahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Input in Cassidy-Graham-Heller healthcare bill

Committee Members:

I write as a citizen concerned very deeply with fellow citizens' access to health care; a type-two diabetic who, fortunately, can afford to absorb a hit if my insurance and prescription bills go up, but understands perfectly well how horribly such an increase will affect tens of thousands of others; and a college professor who talks to colleagues and students every day about how terrified they are of leaving crucial healthcare decisions in the hands of state governments that have oftentimes already demonstrated a willingness not to put patient care at the top of the priority list.

In short, you don't need me or anyone else to marshal the evidence for what a colossally reckless piece of legislation this is. Committee member Senator Grassley admitted as much on live television the other night, and Senator Barrasso did the same on live television not thirty minutes ago.

You all already know that this is terrible policy, and we all know that you know it. It's long past time for the people who campaigned on repealing ACA to realize that the tide has turned--public support for the provisions this bill most directly threatens is overwhelming, and all the claims to the contrary are transparently untrue.

Politics aside: we also all know that the only reason not to wait for a CBO score is that you already know it'll be bad for you. Whether you imperil the well-being of 28 million people instead of 32 million people, you're still doing something horrifying to a huge chunk of the population you're sworn to serve.

In hopes of a moment of sanity after years of smoke-blowing, dishonesty, and campaign-finance-driven dissembling....

Sincerely,

Seth Kahn
West Chester, PA 19380

--

Seth Kahn, PhD
West Chester University
Department of English
"Let's save pessimism for better times." --Eduardo Galeano

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Burke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to you with regard to the proposed cuts to services provided by Medicaid which people with pre-existing conditions depend on, if the Graham-Cassidy Bill is passed.

I am writing on behalf of my daughter, Emily Burke, who currently resides at Success Rehabilitation in Quakertown, Pa. In 1991 she sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury as a result of a motor vehicle accident in which she was a passenger. This injury has affected her ability to process information and retain facts in her short term memory. Emily is impulsive, uses poor judgement, confabulates, has poor decision making skills and exhibits little to no organizational skills. In addition she has impaired motor functioning as well as balance issues which makes her a fall risk. She has been deemed unemployable by OVR after several years of sampling a variety of jobs under several different job coaches.

The Waiver program has been especially important to our daughter in helping her to work toward optimum independence. Without this support, Emily could not function successfully in society. Currently she volunteers one day a week in addition to being stimulated with a variety of therapies which address her lack of executive functions as well as her physical impairments.

At the time of her accident Emily was 14 years old. She is now 40 years of age. Prior to her Traumatic Brain Injury she was an A student in the school system with aspirations of attending college. She now has difficulty with money management, scheduling appointments, remembering to take medications, and managing many other independent activities. With support she is able to complete these functions and feel like a contributing member of society. My husband and I worry about her future and her safety in general since she can easily be taken advantage of. Without these services, many TBI individuals would not progress and in many cases would actually regress, placing them in a nursing facility which is not equipped to handle the individual needs of people with brain injury who need stimulation. Each case is very different.

I implore you NOT to vote for the Graham Cassidy Bill which will cut these vital services that many individuals depend upon to live the most independent life possible. Emily is part of a vulnerable population that requires these services to live her life with dignity. She is among many others who have no voice. Please consider voting with a conscience. These people need your help.

Please feel free to contact me or my husband, Joseph Burke with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Deborah and Joseph Burke

[REDACTED]
Allentown, Pa 18104
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heidi Sentivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a small business owner who relies on the ACA for health insurance for our family. The ACA allowed us to start a business, knowing that we could get a comprehensive family health plan, and NOT be discriminated against for pre-existing conditions. Meanwhile your proposed bill would INCREASE my costs to buy a comprehensive health coverage policy.

This latest attempt to replace the ACA with a terrible bill by Senators Lindsay Graham and Bill Cassidy will particularly hurt Pennsylvania. I'm particularly surprised that Senator Graham would propose such a bill. I thought he was one of the good guys but apparently he's concerned more with getting political brownie points rather than considering what's best for Americans.

Please vote against this bill!

Sincerely, Heidi Sentivan

Heidi Sentivan, RA, LEED AP
Senior Associate
CuettoKEARNEYdesign, Inc
[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tracy brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/ Cassidy healthcare bill

I am writing to you respectfully to share my concerns with the newest replacement bill for the Affordable Healthcare Act.

This new incarnation nicknamed the Graham Cassidy bill is in my opinion very dangerous to the American people. Many healthcare organizations and committees have come out in opposition to this bill citing harmful policy and having a negative impact on patients. Among the top organizations are: the American Lung Association (I lost my father, both grandmothers, and an aunt to lung cancer). March of Dimes (some children who I hold near and dear have used their services), JDRF, ALS foundation, American Heart Association, and others.

More than 75 organizations associated with seniors, those with disabilities, and children have also come out against this bill with the same concerns. Among those organizations are: AARP, National Association of School Psychologists, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), Epilepsy Foundation, Autism Society, Autism Speaks, ALS Foundation and others

In addition to all that opposition now all 50 Medicaid Directors (the NAMD) have all spoken out with concern in regard to this bill.

With all that said WHY are we rushing this bill through?

I will not mince words. I am extremely alarmed at the carelessness of the Senate right now. This fast tracked policy making practice is irresponsible and not in consideration of the American people.

Please implore the Senate to put through a bipartisan effort to fix the issues of the ACA and consult with medical organizations to best benefit the American people.

Tracy Brown
Pennsylvania

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Nichols [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy bill
Attachments: FPCN comment on Graham Cassidy Bill.pdf

Please see attached.

Thank you,
emily

Emily Nichols, MPH, PCMH-CCE
Director of Operations
Family Practice & Counseling Network
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19144
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



THE FAMILY PRACTICE
— & —
COUNSELING NETWORK

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Bennett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators-

I am writing on behalf of my entire family, but mostly for my 3 month old daughter, Harlyn.

Harlyn was diagnosed prenatally with tetralogy of fallot, a complex congenital heart defect. We found out when I was 22 weeks pregnant and thankfully were able to put the best plan in place for her birth.

Harlyn underwent heart surgery less than 24 hours after birth. She had a BT shunt placed in order to help her pulse ox level. At birth her levels remained in the low 70s. She very much needed an intervention at birth. She will also need open heart surgery to fix her heart within 3-6 months.

What is my reason for this email... because my daughter among many other children is on Medicaid. I beg you to please not vote for the graham-cassidy healthcare bill. It will not help families or help those with pre-existing conditions or those who find themselves suddenly ill. Please support healthcare for all so that no one has to worry about the cost of the life of their baby.

Thank you for your time,

Jillian, Aaron, Brayden, Jaxson, & Harlyn Bennett

Chambersburg, PA 17202

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SE Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee members (and other members of the Senate):

I am fortunate in that I have employer-provided healthcare so you all tell me I should just sit back and chill. But I also have allergy problems and asthma. If I lose this job, I will never be able to afford my health care on the open market. My asthma inhaler with my insurance co-pay is \$100 a month out of my pocket.

The ACA allowed my brother to get insurance for the first time in a long-time five years ago. Until then, he was taking his chances while he tried to get his business off the ground. The ACA gave him and his family peace of mind. Many of my friends who have small businesses quit other jobs to start them because the ACA gave them a place to get health insurance that wasn't exorbitantly high.

I hear people get on TV and lie about the fact that passing this back to the states is better. Insurance is a shared risk and healthcare is very expensive. Therefore, the larger the pool we can create for shared risk, the lower the individual costs are. By your logic, we should share the risk across fewer people (the state population versus the national population), especially for high-cost individuals. By your logic, then the states should say, we'll push the problem down to the cities and then the neighborhoods until the point that healthcare is where it was when the policies were only for major medical and only if you jumped through enough hoops. Or you went to the ER and either paid a small fortune, or you defaulted and the rest of us paid your bills.

Cutting Medicaid in particular is heinous. While my parents didn't end up using it (they died too fast to use it), as a middle class family, we would have had to use Medicaid to pay for nursing home care. While, between social security and two pensions, they were making \$3000 a month take-home, they couldn't pay a \$9000 a month bill for specialized nursing care. And \$3000 a month for seniors is certainly much better than many other seniors who will need Medicaid for nursing care. They have even less money.

I know that your buyers have told you no campaign money without repealing the bill (that has been all over the news, so please quit lying about your motivations). But if you went into this for public service, serve the public. If you went in to get rich, then you are heartless and America is going to die because we don't care about our fellow residents.

The ACA needs fixing. It needs the funding support that the Congress denied it over the last 7 years (yes, we know about that too). But we profess to be a nation that cares. Unfortunately, your actions do not show that. I've highlighted the problems in my family that Graham-Cassidy will cause. Implementation of Graham-Cassidy will increase costs on the insured (the uninsured's care has to be paid for), seniors will be fighting others for health care (nursing homes are not in Medicare for long-term stays), and you will cut down on entrepreneurship. Who will quit a job with health insurance to start a new business? If you get sick, you won't have a business anyway. So lack of universal care stifles growth.

My family has done everything right, yet medical costs in my parents' estates are going to take away much of our inheritance, which was small to begin with. Why are you punishing people who have played the game the way we were told to play it?

VOTE NO!!!! VOTE FOR YOUR CONSTITUENTS, NOT YOUR PURCHASERS!!!!

Shirley Clark

[REDACTED]

Middletown; PA 17057

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Neely [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on graham cassidy

Please vote no on the graham Cassidy health care bill.

We love Obamacare because we get to have insurance for our families and it is affordable.

Pittsburgh 15226

Holly Neely
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter DiMaio [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate becauseit is completely unacceptable and will cause great stress and harm to the citizens.

I would like to see how our Congressman Would like to live under these health conditions like the citizens. My guess is probably not.

Peter

Peter DiMaio

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Persinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I have paid for my health care insurance for 60+ years and only rarely used it until recently. Now I am an elderly person with a pre-existing condition. Now, after paying my share for 60+ years Senator Graham thinks I should pay more than everyone else because I am sick and old. This is not fair.

Also, I have no faith in the dolts in the Pennsylvania state government to deal with my healthcare needs - they cannot even deal with the state budget.

Please DO NOT approve the Graham-Cassidy bill.

William Persinger
[REDACTED]

William Persinger
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Clair Oaks [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no!

On the latest health care bill, it is cruel and wrong! Vote no!
Clair Oaks
Swarthmore PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Bononi Wineland [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

Paula Bononi Wineland

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SE Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee members (and other members of the Senate):

I am fortunate in that I have employer-provided healthcare so you all tell me I should just sit back and chill. But I also have allergy problems and asthma. If I lose this job, I will never be able to afford my health care on the open market. My asthma inhaler with my insurance co-pay is \$100 a month out of my pocket.

The ACA allowed my brother to get insurance for the first time in a long-time five years ago. Until then, he was taking his chances while he tried to get his business off the ground. The ACA gave him and his family peace of mind. Many of my friends who have small businesses quit other jobs to start them because the ACA gave them a place to get health insurance that wasn't exorbitantly high.

I hear people get on TV and lie about the fact that passing this back to the states is better. Insurance is a shared risk and healthcare is very expensive. Therefore, the larger the pool we can create for shared risk, the lower the individual costs are. By your logic, we should share the risk across fewer people (the state population versus the national population), especially for high-cost individuals. By your logic, then the states should say, we'll push the problem down to the cities and then the neighborhoods until the point that healthcare is where it was when the policies were only for major medical and only if you jumped through enough hoops. Or you went to the ER and either paid a small fortune, or you defaulted and the rest of us paid your bills.

Cutting Medicaid in particular is heinous. While my parents didn't end up using it (they died too fast to use it), as a middle class family, we would have had to use Medicaid to pay for nursing home care. While, between social security and two pensions, they were making \$3000 a month take-home, they couldn't pay a \$9000 a month bill for specialized nursing care. And \$3000 a month for seniors is certainly much better than many other seniors who will need Medicaid for nursing care. They have even less money.


I know that your buyers have told you no campaign money without repealing the bill (that has been all over the news, so please quit lying about your motivations). But if you went into this for public service, serve the public. If you went in to get rich, then you are heartless and America is going to die because we don't care about our fellow residents.

The ACA needs fixing. It needs the funding support that the Congress denied it over the last 7 years (yes, we know about that too). But we profess to be a nation that cares. Unfortunately, your actions do not show that. I've highlighted the problems in my family that Graham-Cassidy will cause. Implementation of Graham-Cassidy will increase costs on the insured (the uninsured's care has to be paid for), seniors will be fighting others for health care (nursing homes are not in Medicare for long-term stays), and you will cut down on entrepreneurship. Who will quit a job with health insurance to start a new business? If you get sick, you won't have a business anyway. So lack of universal care stifles growth.

My family has done everything right, yet medical costs in my parents' estates are going to take away much of our inheritance, which was small to begin with. Why are you punishing people who have played the game the way we were told to play it?

VOTE NO!!!! VOTE FOR YOUR CONSTITUENTS, NOT YOUR PURCHASERS!!!!

Shirley Clark


Middletown, PA 17057

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Neely [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on graham cassidy

Please vote no on the graham Cassidy health care bill.

We love Obamacare because we get to have insurance for our families and it is affordable.

Pittsburgh 15226

Holly Neely
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherry Chester [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: When are you going to represent this country and not your own interests?

In the wake of this huge opioids addiction crisis you are trying to pass a bill that will only kill more people, enable more crime, and increase state costs because you are in effect, taking away treatment. There is probably not one family in American affected by this - you must know someone in treatment or needing treatment. We are losing a generation of working Americans. Without them healthy and contributing to the labor force, our national debt will be greater and the whole country will suffer. Do the right thing and do not pass any bill that increases this problem.

Sherry Chester
Chadds Ford, PA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dwight Eichelberger [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Senate Graham-Cassidy bill is not a solution to healthcare's woes, but will cost lives

A landmark study in 2009 (<http://www.pnhp.org/excessdeaths/health-insurance-and-mortality-in-US-adults.pdf>) confirmed an earlier study in 1993 that positively correlates lack of insurance with increase risk of dying. The 2009 study attributed 45,000 deaths annually to lack of insurance coverage. At that time, about 16% of the US population was uninsured. Due the expansion of coverage under the Affordable Care Act, that rate is now about 11%, saving approximately 15,000 lives a year due to access to health insurance. Medicaid expansion, based on data at Gallup Analytics, represented about 25% of the increased coverage, or nearly 4000 of the saved lives.

The Graham-Cassidy bill explicitly seeks to not only roll back the ACA Medicaid expansions in participating states, but further scale back future federal support for Medicaid. This puts the onus on states to increase taxes to provide the same level of coverage, or scale back coverage such that fewer are insured. While lacking a CBO assessment of Graham-Cassidy, the Center for American Progress estimates from earlier "repeal & replace" efforts suggest that up to 32 million could lose coverage despite 11 million shifting from Medicaid to employer-sponsored plans. And 32 million more uninsured Americans represents a return to levels similar to 2009. In an era of tight state budgets, coverage cutbacks appear inevitable given the scope of the newly uninsured.

In effect, people will die as a direct consequence of this bill. If this bill becomes law, the Senate will be the "death panel", not the ACA. 4,000 deaths from Medicaid cutbacks? 15,000 if the number of uninsured return to 2009 levels? If these were death rates attributable to terrorism, this bill would instantly be labelled treasonous by the very Senators promoting it.

Lastly, the proffered "flexibility to innovate" is an empty phrase, since states possess no more power to keep people from getting sick than the federal government. In fact, having listened to significant segments of Sen Alexander's recently disbanded bipartisan effort, as a physician who spends much of my professional time in the realm of "population health" I agree the real issue is the cost of care.

Please stop the insanity around picking who gets a chance at surviving. Support increasing coverage, and get to work addressing the drivers of high cost care. Those drivers cannot be solved by piecemeal state based efforts because, unlike insurance, the drivers cross state lines. Federal action, and the resources available at the federal level, are required to address these systemic drivers.

Dwight Eichelberger, MD
Lancaster General Health

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eleanor Tecosky-Feldman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to express my deep opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Graham-Cassidy does not earmark money for low income consumers. I work at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. I meet practicing nurses there everyday who speak about the "bad old days" when they could not treat their patients because they had inadequate or no insurance. No one should have to choose to go without coverage or go bankrupt, but Graham-Cassidy's terrible combination of ending the individual mandate while requiring insurers to cover everyone would send premiums sky high and do just that. It is also wrong for the economy--sick people don't work.

It is also wrong to vote on a bill without fully understanding its effects. Yet Congress will vote on this bill without a full score from the Congressional Budget Office. The American people deserve better. We have stated clearly and forcefully that we reject attempts to turn back the clock on healthcare. Congress must instead work to find a bipartisan fix to the ACA. Thank you.

Eleanor Tecosky-Feldman

Eleanor Tecosky-Feldman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Cabrera [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Importance: High

Good afternoon. Please know that the new healthcare bill proposed by the senate will NOT BE BENEFICIAL to the PEOPLE I serve. As a fellow government employee, I ask you not vote for it.

Lisa R. Cabrera
Health Program Analyst
Administrative Services Management Team
Waiver Unit
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marla Strahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please do not vote for this bill!! It in no way will help people who need coverage the most.

Thank you,

Marla Strahl
Allentown PA 18104

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joshua Nay [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

As the parent of a child with a rare disease, I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Joshua Nay

Mr. Joshua Nay
[REDACTED]
Glenolden, PA 19036
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Zimmerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy

I have many objections to the substance of the bill, but equally important, this is no way to pass major legislation which effects one-sixth of the nation's economy. There should be committee hearings, substantive debate, a CBO score, and due consideration before a vote on an issue of this magnitude is taken. To rush such a measure through in two weeks is inexcusable.

Mary Zimmerman
10th Congressional District PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jayatri Das [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I'm writing because I'm deeply concerned by both the process and content of the healthcare legislation currently in Congress.

First, the process -- it is appalling that the Graham-Cassidy plan is being rushed through Congress. For legislation that will so dramatically affect your constituents' lives, not to mention one-sixth of the economy, this lack of debate and evaluation of its impact is unacceptable. I urge you to pursue the bipartisan approach to ACA reform led by Sens. Murray and Alexander instead.

Even more critically, I am outraged by the possibility of legislation that could make healthcare unaffordable for millions of Americans, decimate Medicaid, and waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions. As just one case in point, I want to share with you the story of my nephew Daniel, who suffers from multiple disabilities due to brain damage from when he suddenly stopped breathing shortly after birth. His parents have good jobs and private insurance, yet are dependent on Medicaid for the care necessary for Daniel to live at home, including long-term physical, speech, and occupational therapy and visiting nurses.

Daniel and his family are not alone -- over 1/3 of children with special health care needs do not have adequate insurance. The proposed cuts to Medicaid funding and the potential change to block grants would put these essential services in jeopardy for Daniel and millions of other children.

This issue is extremely important to me and I will be watching the Senate process closely.

Thank you,
Jayatri Das

[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to vote against the Graham/Cassidy health care bill. The cost to the government and the costs to the American people both in dollars and health care should weigh heavily in your decision and on your conscience. To pass a Bill whose real intended purpose is not the health of individuals, but fulfilling a "campaign promise" is an egregious violation of the integrity of the office to which you were elected. Issues of medical care which involve life and death cannot be solved by promises.

Thank you for seriously considering my request.

Philip Jirus
Hershey, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Heyd [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it looks like it will raise insurance costs, especially for seniors; because it would leave us at the mercy of profit-motivated insurance companies; because it takes away guaranteed coverage for pre-existing conditions like the one I have; because it pushes the responsibility down to the states, which would create a mishmash of coverages across the country, drive up costs, and ultimately reduce health care coverage and affordability. I live in Pennsylvania, which is already struggling with a budget deficit. This bill would be a disaster for my state. Finally, I believe we need a bipartisan solution, which this most definitely is not.

Michael Heyd
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Delia Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Heller bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am perturbed that our elected officials have become so fixated on demolishing health care in our country. It seems blind and purposeless. Instead, we should be fixing health care.

Please reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. A better solution would be the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities. And it would weigh heavily (and unequally) on the states least equipped to deal with the burden.

Delia Turner
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carl Harrington [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Carl Harrington
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19107
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Taije Silverman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Zachary Lesser
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill

This message is in regards to the brief hearing you will hold on Monday at 2pm about whether to pass the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill.

The bill is a horror. My sister who has Multiple Sclerosis will no longer be able to take medication to keep from being in a wheelchair and ultimately unable to move. Two years ago she had a benign brain tumor removed from her head. Because she could afford to have the surgery that removed it, through her insurance, she had it removed.

When she changes insurance as she will have to do, she will have pre-existent conditions. If that brain tumor were to show up now, benign as it is, it would grow into her speech area within months and within a year or two, according to doctors, kill her.

My dear friend and student who has cerebral palsy will no longer be able to get the surgeries that keep her alive. People will die if you pass this bill. Babies, and daughters, and mothers will die. It isn't hyperbole. It's simple and obvious fact.

This is not a third world country. We do not need to die from illnesses for which there are simple and easily accessible cures.

I have no idea what bribe or gift of money to any state could be seen as a worthy trade for the devastation this bill will actively and unnecessarily cause at a catastrophic scale.

Susan Collins, Lisa Murkowski, John McCain: every Senator with a family and an understanding that we love ours as you love yours: Don't let this bill pass.

Senator Collins and Senator Murkowski: I didn't know who you were before you stood up for health care. Then you became heroes for me. I didn't follow politics before this year. Now the iniquity of decisions made since January don't leave me with a choice. We know you, now. I just sent information to my sister in Louisiana and to her husband and to their children about Senator Cassidy. No more politically than I am, they didn't think about him, before. And now they're permanently appalled. We are holding each other accountable in a way we never have, before. And we still vote.

Sincerely and with so much hope,

Taije Silverman
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary McNichol [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Mary McNichol
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19118
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lou Rosenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PROPOSED CASSIDY GRAHAM BILL

Dear Senators,

Though I know little of the highly secretive Cassidy-Graham bill which intends to repeal and replace many sections of AHC, I am particularly concerned that it would seem many in the Senate know even less.

Equally alarming is the fact that there have been no hearing by the CBO or careful examination by any third party neutral insurance-finance experts.

I am aghast that any Representative of WE THE People would even consider casting a vote for or against a piece of legislation that has been brought before the Senate under such circumstances.

Sincerely,

Lou Rosenberg
[REDACTED]
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Kolpas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA

Hello,

Please do not repeal/replace the ACA. This is the second time my husband has had cancer. If his lifetime limit would have been reached when he had surgery for prostate cancer fifteen years ago, he would not be entering the hospital on Monday to have surgery for esophageal cancer. Similarly, if he would not have gotten coverage as a result of having a pre existing condition, instead of looking forward to a positive outcome, I would be saying my final goodbye to him, as would our two daughters and four grandchildren.

Life is uncertain. No one knows what will happen to them. So, everyone needs medical insurance. If everyone has it, then the risks are shared and the price goes down. Period! This is not "fake news", it is mathematics.

It is not fair to make insurance so expensive that people who need it can't afford it. We are one of the only countries that does not take care of the medical needs of its citizens. No one should ever lose their entire life savings in order to save the life of a loved one.

Laurie Kolpas
Rose Valley, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Stuckey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

This bill is an abomination. No one with any expertise in health care supports it. I pay attention, I organize, and I vote. Please do not allow this bill to pass. Thank you.

Mary Stuckey

[REDACTED]
State College, PA 16803

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda W [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill comments from a worker with a disability

Good evening, to whom it may concern,

I am sure you are receiving plenty of form mailers regarding Graham Cassidy. I want to write to you regarding why it is important to me that Obamacare remain intact. There are many reasons, but I decided to pick one.

Obamacare expanded Medicaid. Medicaid is a vital program in this country. In my state, Pennsylvania, we have a buy-in program for disabled folks called Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) which is precisely what it sounds like: it provides Medicaid benefits to disabled people who work (and pay a premium). Not many people outside policy circles know about this program or the important part it plays in keeping people with disabilities involved in their communities and also part of the tax base.

I have been disabled from childhood, various chronic pain conditions. I was on disability for several years in early adulthood. I have been working now for some 11 years (I am in my early 30s) and I began at 5-6 hours a week. The 6th hour always knocked me down. As my treatment progressed, I was able to add more hours; I have now been with my current employer full-time over 8 years of service (promotion 2 years ago), and I feel that I am valued in a job that I enjoy and which continues to challenge me.

Part of what enabled me to work was access to healthcare through Medicaid. I had a husband to rely on for primary insurance at that time, but no longer do and not everyone does. My previous employers did not offer insurance. Additionally, co-pays alone on the medications that enable me to work in the first place can run anywhere from \$100-250/month, and from what I've read, I am one of the lucky ones.

I have utilized the MAWD buy-in at a couple times since moving to Pennsylvania and recently had to apply for it again due to worsening health and therefore increasing cost of treatment. It is not a benefit that I stay on indefinitely, knowing that I need it less than others. But it **enables me to stay at work**. It also keeps my health from falling apart, and keeps my finances from same. And when I no longer need it - let's hope for good this time - I will stop using it, and fall off the rolls.

Additionally, disability has been a part of my life from the start, and disability is really central to the conversation here (speaking about health care). My currently workplace is an office dedicated to serving people with disabilities, and I interact with these folks every day. I do not want to see any of them negatively impacted by this bill. I do not want to be unable to send people with referrals to the county assistance office to sign up for medical assistance because now they will be unlikely to qualify, or because there will be unreasonable hoops to jump through. To me Medicaid is an important public program that should be regarded as such, and not looked down on or treated as though it is riddled with trash, which is the vibe I get from politicians so often. It helps people who are in true need. We would all do well to listen to people in need sometimes, and not dismiss them. Maybe we would learn something.

Please do not pass this bill. Do not consider it, do not allow it to the floor, and if it ever makes it that far, VOTE NO. Look for ways to improve the law, not to tear it down.

Respectfully,

Amanda Clark, constituent in Washington, PA.

[REDACTED]

p.s. please do not add me to any mailing lists.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claire Witzleben [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

As a mother of a child with type one diabetes, I am writing to strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill to dismantle our health care system and gut our health care safety net called Medicaid. When the Affordable Care Act became law, many millions of Americans got a federal protection they desperately need: community rating for health insurance. As an MBS in health care administration, I know what this means and it is nothing radical. That is how group insurance operates. As a parent, I know I sleep better because my son, diagnosed as insulin dependent at age 8, will be able to afford health insurance.

It has been very frustrating listening to members of the Senate try to pretend that saying "pre-existing conditions" does anything to help people who have them. That is pure deceit, and an attempt to fool people including probably the President. What we got through the ACA was a level playing field: **no annual or lifetime caps on benefits, and community rating for everyone.** Please do not pretend that anything short of that protects people with pre-existing conditions.

In trying to understand the desperation of the Senate to "undo" the ACA, I cannot help but notice that our markets have already adjusted to community rating for everyone, and insurance companies are making very healthy profits. Some people who are now obligated to buy health insurance in years when they do not need it are unhappy. Too bad. If I never crash my car, does that mean I do not need insurance? If you want to help middle class families who find their premiums too expensive, you can do so without "undoing" the protections of no annual or lifetime caps and community rating. I know, it would be work but it can be done.

Finally, please do not hide behind repealing the ACA as your cover for trying to fundamentally alter Medicaid. Your disgusting proposal to block grant Medical insurance for the poor and disabled is tacked onto this bill in order to please Paul Ryan and his ilk. This has nothing to do with reforming any markets. This is the hope of selfish rich men that they can reduce taxes for other rich men. It is shameful.

Claire Witzleben
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Kennon [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

As a health insurance broker and as a person with pre-existing conditions, I am VERY concerned about the latitude that this bill gives to states to limit benefits and out-of-pocket maximums. I hear clients from both political sides who are very concerned that their pre-existing conditions might not be treated under this plan. I understand that it does not explicitly state that pre-existing conditions will not be covered, but by allowing states to opt into waivers, you are allowing insurance companies to have a lot of power. If you haven't noticed, Highmark and UPMC already have enough power. PLEASE allow any healthcare bill go through the proper stages of arguments and amendments. Do not mess this up for your constituents because you don't think you can get sixty votes on it. If you can't get 60 votes, it probably isn't a good plan.

Liz Kennon

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gretchen Sorce [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it covers virutally nothing, strips 32 million Americans of their healthcare, and will do nothing to lower insurance, medical, or prescription costs for the lucky few who get to keep their insurance. Refusing to cover prenatal and newborn care is abhorrent. Not to mention there has been no vetting by the CBO or public debate, all while the GOP leadership has declared an end to bipartisan work on something better. This is not Democratic, and this bill will do more harm than any potential good. Do what is right for your consituents and vote NO on Graham/Cassidy.

Gretchen Sorce

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Gallo [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because It has not gone through a comprehensive process of review in order to see how many people will be affected. No medical group has come out in support of this bill. Why?

My family has ACA as I am sole business owner. I have no other insurance options for my family. Before ACA we were priced out of every plan. How can you expect people to grow businesses-when they can't have health insurance?

Everyone has a preexisting condition! If you gave birth that is considered a preexisting condition.

Andrea Gallo
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eleanor Brogan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I have a pre-existing condition-a clotting disorder which caused 2 strokes. By pushing this bill you are enacting a death sentence to those of us with known health problems. If you claim to be prolife, then you would not even consider this bill. It is immoral and wrong. Please do the right thing and defeat this proposal. There are too many lives at stake. Thank you for your time and attention to this voter.

Eleanor Jane Brogan, RN, BSN.

Eleanor Brogan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ruth Bock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care bill

Please DO NOT allow the Graham-Cassidy health care bill to pass. I am gravely concerned about how it will affect health care consumers-- everyone-- in PA. This bill has been rushed through and seems to be much more spiteful than it is helpful. Many Americans will suffer from it. I am trying to use my one tiny voice to speak out. Please listen.

Ruth Bock
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren McKinney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA!

This new health bill does not protect people. Please. This is not the way to go! Vote no on the repeal of the ACA.

Thank you,

Lauren McKinney
[REDACTED]
Swarthmore PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Douglas Lentz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy and essential health benefits

My name is Douglas Lentz, and I am a registered nurse at Chestnut Hill Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While I and my family are fortunate to be in good health, the same is not true for many of my patients. Once, while working the night shift I was administering a medical treatment to a patient when he calmly informed me that he was five million dollars in debt due to medical expenses. The bulk of this was acquired when his wife had to be hospitalized in an intensive care unit for thirty-three days.

Under Graham-Cassidy, minimum standards of policy coverage ("essential health benefits") can be defined by the individual states, and we will likely see a return of the "bare bones" insurance policies similar to the one that impoverished my patient. Anyone can experience a lengthy and expensive hospitalization - one that could cost a house, a comfortable retirement, a son or daughter's college education, or any kind of financial security for one's family. No one should have to undergo this.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY

Senators,

This bill is going to harm Americans. LOTS of Americans. It is unacceptable that you are planning to throw 32 million people off their insurance, bring an end to Medicaid as we know it, price people like me who have pre-existing conditions out of the market, and allow premiums to skyrocket, just so you can keep some ridiculous campaign promise AND get the Kochs to open their piggybanks for you in 2018. Anyone who could look at this bill and vote for it in good conscience is a monster. I'm disgusted and infuriated, and while I hope you will do the right thing I know from bitter experience watching you attempt to govern and failing miserably over the past 8 or so years that you almost certainly will not.

VOTE NO ON GRAHAM CASSIDY.

Gina Holub
Morrisville, PA 19067

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phil Nanni [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACCA

Dear Senators,

I am a conservative and don't care for some parts of the ACCA and believe it should be updated accordingly. I was delighted to see bi partisan efforts moving to do just that. I am not a proponent of repealing this milestone Legislation that has helped so many fellow Americans. All of my constituents agree that repeal is absurd especially in light of the plan proposed which is hurtful to so many Americans. Please stop towing the Dotards line & bulldozing good legislation for his personal vendetta, everyone sees you doing this & sees the weakness it represents. Just because you were elected as a republican doesn't make you a good and decent representative; in fact some are an embarrassment because of their willingness to hurt the average middle class citizen during his deconstruction rampage. Stop bulldozing and start building. Americans will support ACCA if good republicans repair the areas that need it. We won't support your further eroding the income of middle class folks with pre existing conditions. Many of us or our family or friends have had, or will have the need for ACCA in the future. Without it we will be force to spend our retirement savings just to stay alive.

I can assure you this, if ACCA is bulldozed this week, the Republicans will NEVER recover. Too many constituents will be harmed. Payback will be both swift and thorough. I know I will be at the voting booth in 2018 along with most of my fellow conservatives.

Stop bulldozing! Start fixing and improving!

Thank you,

Phil Nanni
Born in the USA in 1961 in Pittsburgh, PA.
Proud Conservative American

Sent from Phil's phone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Cortese [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerns about disabled with GC healthcare bill-19086

We have a son with autism and this bill jeopardizes his ability to receive the special education services that enable him to lead a productive and meaningful life as a contributing member of society. It's more costly in the long run and more importantly, unethical and immoral.

Linda Cortese
Rose Valley pa

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRaham-Cassidy-Heller bill

Senate Finance Committee,

As a woman and someone with pre-existing conditions, I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Sandra Krieg
Ambler, PA
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Niemeyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

This is a bad bill. It will hurt my parents--they are in their later years and need the money from the ACA. This bill guts their safety net.

This will hurt me. I have Anxiety (NOS) and Major Depression. I get affordable medication through the ACA. Graham-Cassidy will destroy that.

Listen: you've heard the press. It's bad. And it's not bipartisan--all it is is GOP partisan hackery.

Please consider this.

Thank you for your time.

Michael Joseph Niemeyer

[REDACTED]
West Chester, Pa
19380

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill is the worst healthcare proposal to date.

Our 23-year-old son, who is covered under my insurance because of the affordable care act, recently expressed some concerns to his father and I. He has a condition going on with his leg/bone that at this point is showing no signs of cancer but we won't know for sure until he has surgery October 4. He is under my insurance coverage, but for how long??...he now will have a pre-existing condition, simply orthopedic or something more serious, and four days before his surgery it is very scary that our leaders in Washington are not leading in the development and compromise of proactive and positive change for the citizens of this country. 23 to over 30 million loss of coverage due to higher premiums-limitations???? Millions of US citizens being threatened by a United States president.....what has happen to our countries leadership?

My husband and I have worked all our lives paid into the system all our lives and now are in a dark hole, too young for options but too old to continue in this environment as we don't know what's going to happen to us..... employers limit or remove coverage-raising premium so high that we cant afford-threatening Medicare Medicaid Social Security ...we don't know what our future is going to look like. My husband, maintaining his health- controlling his medical issues proactively having insurance, would be paying over \$2000 prescriptions a month(why are we not we talking about the sky rocket costs oh that's right blood money in pockets) if he was not covered.....he's a hard worker good an honest man. My beautiful 32 year old daughter-in-law juvenile diabetic, my beautiful 30 year old daughter asthma pre-existing medical conditions and my beautiful 28 year old daughter medical conditions looking for a job how will she be covered with pre-existing conditions?.....due to confidentiality I can't even begin to tell you my medical nightmare..... but I'm old and I'll die what about all these beautiful young people that are learning this country doesn't have their backs???

These are not stories of "freebies"and "giveaways" these are the citizens making this country great-building this country even stronger---let's talk about those stories..... even with the ability to be strong and make change there's nothing going on but traitorous egos & financial agendas that are leading this nation down a distructive path.

No one is caring about the nation, only hyper focused on undoing a black man's leadership.... let's be honest bottom line.....shame shame shame.....

Won't somebody please fix the affordable care act, how about Medicare for all and negotiating with pharmaceutical companies or another creative solution, instead of tearing down.....ramifications of this,from jobs/healthcare to mortality, is frightening.....This is so un-American I can't even comprehend the depth of deception and treason in the Republican leadership.

This new act racism and elitist posturing deliberately targets states that expanded Medicaid for the most cuts--and then gives that money to states that did not expand Medicaid.Please don't steal from your own constituents. Those who voted for this president are now getting paid, example Southern states will be able to siphon "block money" to other agenda items rather than healthcare.... The public is seeing nothing but a shell game from both our president and his court jesters, I'm so disappointed.

This latest attempt at smashing instead of correcting will be nothing but an "abortion" of those with pre-existing conditions, Medicaid, Medicare, middle income, lower income, special-needs, men and women proactive care and testing, the list goes on and on and on. Just keep abortion totally unrestricted so you can start at the beginning instead of the back-endwhy your at it why don't you trash the constitution except the two that protect unlimited guns and unlimited hate speech(and my ability to write this letter) also tell us how many kids we can have-if we go to local schools or universities-what religion we should practice & hurt us if we don't believe- if we go in the coal mines the fields drink dirty water eat poisonous food breath dirty air(so top 1% 400 families stuff their pockets with blood coated money) this is ridiculous!

I am not speaking as a Republican

I am not speaking as a Democrat

I am a resident of the United States

I am sick of the way this treasonous administration has turn Honor into a nonexistent, yet once amazing, attribute of our country.....My eyes lift to the sky as I pray for support & forgiveness because Washington is not listening....hate, ignorance & violence and now importantly greed, why would you not want a healthy nation?, has taken over..... out of the darkness I seek the light.....LOVE

Mrs. Rita Darragh-Connors


Quakertown, PA 18951-1005

please excuse any typos emails will be sent, using microphone, from my mobile device

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RDC 2017

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill is the worst healthcare proposal to date.

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I am not speaking as a Democrat
I am a resident of the United States

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Mrs. Rita Darragh-Connors


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RDC 2017

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Healthcare Vote

Senators,

While I feel politics is a necessary evil, there are times when the people need to be heard as a means of controlling that evil. This is truly one of those times. As an individual on Medicare, I have seen many congressional stupidities over the years, but never have I witnessed the current total disregard for the process of creating meaningful legislation. The senate's so-called leadership is a disgrace to our government and our country. His actions are more like a third world operative rather than a democratically elected public servant. Crafting bills behind closed doors with very little input from anyone with expert knowledge on the subject and almost spontaneously putting them up for a vote before Senators know what they contain is clearly an abuse of power. Impeachable if you ask me. No one even knows anything about the financial impact. We only know tens of millions of people will lose their healthcare along with shredding medicare.

This legislation has nothing to do with improving the healthcare of the citizens of this country. This is a shell game to transfer the funds needed to continue the ACA so that tax breaks can be given to the wealthiest people in the country and so that corporations, which are flush with money already (much of it stashed offshore), can have huge tax breaks. This sickening maneuver will grossly expand the division of wealth and provide nothing in return. The tired old trickle-down theory has been proven to be false over and over. Statistics show that when corporations get tax breaks, they increase the CEO's pay and distribute the wealth to the stockholders. They do not invest in jobs and they most definitely do not increase the pay of working people. Its all a big lie and the people are waking up to that.

So I would highly recommend that you vote against passage of this horrible excuse for legislation and begin to think smartly about what your jobs are as public servants. Such a disgrace.

Albert H Hamm
Lancaster, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please stop attacking Obamacare!

For many Americans, the creation of Obamacare has been a Godsend. My niece would have died from cancer without it. Your continued efforts to eliminate ACA is wrong on so many levels. Nothing in this new bill is better than ACA, and it is also being used as a bribe to Alaska. Concerned citizens such as myself want ACA aka Obama care to STAY!

Nancy Mikus
Pittsburgh, PA

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S8.

I hate pink; always have. I always thought it was too foofy, too predictable, too 'girly'.

Then I was diagnosed. Stage 0 breast cancer at age 45. The conversation went from -nothing- to -calcifications- to -carcinoma-. Just. Like. That. From lumpectomy to nope, you're not a candidate, total mastectomy. Just. Like. That.

And suddenly, I am awash in pink. On my nails. In my hair. I gird myself in a pink tutu, a Wonder Woman t-shirt, Wonder Woman Converse, and a boob-hat-with-a-crown-edge that I crocheted myself. For every single visit. Every single procedure. Every single follow-up.

I am one of them. One of the millions of women scared of the words: breast cancer. Scared of the pain. Frightened of the surgery, and the reconstruction, and the scars. Fighting for tomorrow. Shoring up our families. Relying on our friends. Supported by our neighbors, our clinicians, our colleagues. Surrounded by countless women-survivors whom we don't even know. Carrying the spirits of those who went before us, for whom tomorrow brought a peaceful sleep, but left a wake of sorrow.

So here I am, three days before my surgery. My mastectomy. My reconstruction. My recovery. My pain. My journey. Calling senators, congressmen and women, staffers, anyone who will listen. Because my diagnosis is now a pre-existing condition. My bills will be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars within months. And I am one of the lucky ones: with a job, and insurance, and a care delivery system that is one of the best in the world.

But now I am vulnerable, and I am afraid. After three decades of studying, analyzing, and trying to improve the American healthcare system in my professional life, the actual system may kill me. Not the disease. Not the treatment. Because my prognosis is excellent, my treatment options plentiful and effective. But the system. Because if this new bill passes, my insurance will be cut off. Or I will have to choose between the education and financial security of my children, and my healthcare treatment. Will I make a mortgage payment or go to that follow-up visit? Will my daughter be able to go to college, or will I need another round of treatment? My dream of continuing my education and working on community health system delivery systems will be gone, in an instant, because of a treatable disease that has locked me into a way to pay to fight it.

And therein to me is the irony. I should be focused on my body, my soul, my strength. Saving every last ounce of energy for the tough road ahead, the patch immediately in front of me. Using these last days and moments before the hospital enjoying the sunshine, my puppy, my husband, my children.

Instead, I am spending myself in figuring out insurance coverage, and pre-authorizations, and cost-sharing limits. And begging politicians not to take away what security and protection that I and my family have. And the millions of others like me, in pink, trying to focus on healing, getting well, pushing to live another day for our families and friends and communities.

Here's to my sisters in pink, and to all of us fighting this fight for one another. Here's to our health, and our wellness, our communities and our collective soul. I will keep calling, and I will keep fighting. And I will keep wearing pink.

Amy Raslevich
Pittsburgh, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Kenion [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Act

Hello I am a Pennsylvania resident and voter, and I'm urging you NOT to vote for the Graham-Cassidy Act. This will threaten decent health insurance for members of my family. It is not fiscally or morally responsible. You don't have the right to pass this, it will be catastrophic to so many of us!

Michele Kenion
Wallingford, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Luke Bauerlein [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it does nothing to reduce the inefficiencies of the Affordable Care Act. As an independent thinker and voter there are two thresholds I want any healthcare legislation to meet:

- 1) It must lower costs and expand coverage
- 2) It must undergo non-partisan analysis that is shared widely with the public.

Quite frankly, I am sick of these bills being jammed down the American people's throats without a review by the CBO. Independent, analytical review is a basic component of the decision making process that any major business or non-profit would undergo before voting on a major new initiative. To me that type of review demonstrates the the type of model for government and legislative accountability that I expect from my elected officials.

Thanks so much for serving this incredible country we are lucky to call home. I am encouraging you to vote no on Graham- Cassidy-Heller-Johnson.

Sincerely,

- Luke Bauerlein
[REDACTED]
Phoenixville PA 19460
[REDACTED]

Luke Bauerlein
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Hall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments re: Graham-Cassidy

As an engaged American, I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy bill. It may be great. It may be terrible. But until we see a CBO score we will not know. And, as such, it would be utterly irresponsible for the Senate to take ANY action for a vote on this until the FULL CBO analysis is known.

Based on what I have read, I have dramatic concerns about the lack of protections within the bill - and furthermore how much is kicked back to insurers & states to decide (and fund - and, in case you were unaware, so many states are struggling with budget crises i.e. They are unlikely to have much, if any, funding to offer to help with healthcare!)

But, above that, we need a FULL CBO score - until we do, no vote should take place. To do so would be partisan for the benefit of politicians - and irresponsible to all Americans as their constituents.

Thanks for your consideration.
Ben Hall
Registered Republican
Wallingford, Delaware County, PA 19086

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Laser [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is BAD for America!

We have followed the health care debate in America for years and we are sad to say that legislators are not moving towards solutions that will make Americans healthier.

Case in point...the Graham-Heller bill. This bill is awful and will kill Americans.

PLEASE return to regular order and bipartisan solutions to health care reform.

STOP Graham-Cassidy before it is too late.

Sincerely,

Mark and Kathy Laser

[REDACTED]
Carlisle PA 17015

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA

To dismantle the ACA without a score from the CBO, to take away healthcare from so many Americans and specifically Pennsylvanians, is heartless and cruel.

Please vote against this attempt to make the class divide even greater in this country and hurt so many people.

Thank you,
Liz Corson

[REDACTED]
Wallingford PA 19086

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Meehan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote No on Graham-Cassidy

To Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Laurie Meehan. My husband and I live in Pennsylvania.

During the summer, almost every member of the Senate said they wanted to preserve protection for people with pre-existing conditions. There was, and still is, good reason for that. Graham-Cassidy would allow states to get waivers that removes that protection. You must know that the phrase "adequate and affordable," without definitions, is meaningless.

My husband and I have been self-insured for decades. I've learned the system and its shortcomings very well. In 2002, we moved to a different state, and had to change insurance companies. I was unable to get insurance coverage for *anything* having to do with a particular organ which, at the time, was affected by a relatively minor condition. For 12 years, I was one terrible diagnosis away from possible financial and medical ruin.

In 2009, alarmed at our escalating premiums, I tried to get a better deal from another carrier. (Yes, premiums were skyrocketing before ACA, too.) Now, the few things we went to the doctor for between 2002 and 2009 were considered *new* pre-existing conditions, and would not be covered under another company's policy. This meant that the insurance company that we chose first had a virtual *monopoly* on our business.

In 2014, all that changed. I was able to fully insure myself.

I am actually begging you here -- please vote "no" on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. My husband and I are still a decade away from retirement. I just can't take 10 more years fearing illness and bankruptcy.

Thanks for your time.

Laurie Meehan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rob Oaks [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: A plea not to support Graham-Cassidy

I am a very concerned citizen living in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania (19081). GC would be devastating for so many people in our country, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. I beg you not to support this immoral bill.

Sincerely,
Rob Oaks

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I have been doing public health access work for over 10 years in Pittsburgh. I am incredibly concerned about the disastrous effects that this bill would have on a very large number of people.

I urge you to do all that you are able to to stop the passing of this bill. Health care is a human right. Please do not increase the suffering of people dealing with health issues. It's inhumane.

Do the right thing. Protect our health care.

--
Jude Vachon
Be Well! Pittsburgh
[REDACTED]

September 22, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Finance
Rm. SD-219
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Submitted by:
Lauryn Wicks

[REDACTED]
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17050

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I am writing today to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I cannot support legislation that would jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths.

I am a resident of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and care deeply about this issue. Having experienced first-hand, the ravages of mental illness and addiction in my own family, I find it unconscionable that any member of Congress would agree to pass any legislation that enables the reduction or elimination of insurance coverage for mental health and substance use disorders. One in three households are impacted by addiction. Someone in our country, usually a young adult, dies every four minutes from alcohol or other drugs.

I am opposed to this bill because:

- States could waive the requirement that private plans offer substance use disorder treatment. This could return us to the tragic situation before the ACA, when more than one third of people with private insurance did not have coverage for addiction services and supports.
- People with pre-existing conditions would be priced out of coverage for any illness, including people with substance use disorders, who could face an additional \$20,000/year on top of existing premium costs.
- The bill would disproportionately harm communities of color and others whose access to coverage and treatment is already restricted.
- The end to Medicaid expansion would leave millions of low-income consumers without health care coverage or access to life-saving addiction treatment.
- A \$4 trillion reduction in federal funding to states for health coverage over the next 20 years would devastate state budgets and put pressure on states to cut services.

I want to reiterate my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal and thank you for hearing my concerns.

Sincerely,
Lauryn Wicks

cc: Senator Robert Casey, Senator Pat Toomey

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

I live in Pennsylvania and am opposed to the current healthcare bill. It would cause many Pennsylvanians to lose coverage. It would allow states to choose if they will continue to have coverage for essential health benefits and pre-existing conditions, as well as allow insurers to increase prices on pre-existing conditions, to the point where many will be priced out of coverage. This bill does not actually fix the flaws in the ACA. It just seems to shift money around in a way that will cause millions to lose insurance. It feels obvious that Republicans want to pass SOMETHING, just so they can say they did, without enough real concern for the harm it will do.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Malarkey

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian strahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

You cannot approve this bill that will hurt and destroy 1/6th of the US population. Even Sen. Grassley with his 10 reasons that this bill should not be considered! What is the rush. This decision needs a bi-partisan approach! Please Reject and vote no on this!

Brian Strahl
Allentown, PA
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frank Szymanski [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy comments

My name is Frank Szymanski and I am a constituent in zip code 19403. Both me and my wife have significant preexisting conditions. With Pennsylvania as a purple state, I cannot guess as to whether the state will keep or drop the pre-existing condition protections and that would drastically increase my costs. Beyond this, it is egregious to continue pushing changes that are so drastic outside of the normal order.

~Frank

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Cassidy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Every association of healthcare providers, the health insurance industry, and all 50 Medicaid Directors of every state oppose Graham-Cassidy. These are knowledgeable people. Listen to them.

American Medical Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Physicians
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association
American College of Physicians
National Council for Behavioral Health
American Hospital Association
Federation of American Hospitals
Children's Hospital Association
Catholic Health Association of the United States
American Association of Medical Colleges
America's Essential Hospitals
American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living
America's Health Insurance Plans
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
ALS Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
Arthritis Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Family Voices
Juvenile Diabetes Research Funding
Lutheran Services in America
March of Dimes
National Association of Medicaid Directors
National Health Council
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Diseases
Physician Assistant Education Association
Volunteers of America
WomenHeart
AARP
The Arc: For People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Consumers Union

David Cassidy
[REDACTED]
State College, PA 16801

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Sibley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

Dear Senators,

This bill is a terrible mistake. Clearly, the Congress favors health, or your members wouldn't have voted for the generous expansion in funding for the NIH.

Whence this mean spirited cut to the health of the people of the United States, then--the working class, the poor, the elderly, the disabled, babies, women, children--most of the country really? Simply to say that you "stopped Obama care"?

Does that prove anything, except that you were consistent on a mistaken pledge? Remember George Wallace-- "segregation today segregation tomorrow segregation forever"--even he saw the light, and realized that he made a bad pledge --and should break it.

It is the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashanah, time for a new start; I hope your members will see this and drop this horrific plan--Leave it in the dustbin of history. We are a civilized country, and the people will remember this at election time, and not vote for those who care so little for our health.

Yours, Katherine Sibley
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Josephine Park [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:30 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposition to GCH

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to this latest ACA repeal attempt. It is heartbreaking to think of the people and especially children who will lose key health care benefits as a result of this.

Jo Park
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Colleen Guiney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill: Public Comment

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, and am deeply troubled about the consequences of Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate, because lives and jobs are on the line. This rush to repeal the ACA has not been fully scored by the CBO, and will disrupt care for millions of children and families.

The parents of children I care for vote, and they care deeply about their children's health, (and maternity care if they have another child.) I believe that there will be tremendous suffering, followed by a strong backlash at the ballot box from the parents in this country if the Graham-Cassidy Bill is passed. I do understand that suffering may not be distributed equally or felt immediately, but families will suffer nonetheless.

I sincerely hope you will consider alternatives that fix our current problems, rather than allow the dismantling the best parts of the ACA.

Sincerely,

Colleen Guiney
[REDACTED]

Swarthmore PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rev. Janet Edwards [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on GrahamCassidy

The GrahamCassidy destruction of Obamacare and Medicaid to give a tax break to the rich is an abominable desecration of the human right to health care, especially in what is supposed to be the richest country in the world. I am AGAINST GrahamCassidy!

Passionately, Janet Edwards Anti Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jocelyn Swigger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: 'info@pahealthaccess.org'
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

To the finance committee of the senate:

I am writing to urge a NO vote on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal. It would have devastating health and financial effects on me, my family, and my friends in Pennsylvania and across the country. America deserves better.

My home address is 160 N. Stratton Street, Gettysburg PA 17325.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn A. K. Swigger, DMA

Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies
Sunderman Conservatory
Gettysburg College
[REDACTED]
Gettysburg, PA 17325

To achieve great things, two things are needed: a plan, and not quite enough time. --Leonard Bernstein

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Taije Silverman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill hearing, with email properly formatted

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Full Name: Taije Silverman
- Address: 922 s 10th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147

This message is in regards to the brief hearing you will hold on Monday at 2pm about whether to pass the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill.

The bill is a horror. My sister who has Multiple Sclerosis will no longer be able to take medication to keep from being in a wheelchair and ultimately unable to move. Two years ago she had a benign brain tumor removed from her head. Because she could afford to have the surgery that removed it, through her insurance, she had it removed.

When she changes insurance as she will have to do, she will have pre-existent conditions. If that brain tumor were to show up now, benign as it is, it would grow into her speech area within months and within a year or two, according to doctors, kill her.

My dear friend and student who has cerebral palsy will no longer be able to get the surgeries that keep her alive. People will die if you pass this bill. Babies, and daughters, and mothers will die. It isn't hyperbole. It's simple and obvious fact.

This is not a third world country. We do not need to die from illnesses for which there are simple and easily accessible cures.

I have no idea what bribe or gift of money to any state could be seen as a worthy trade for the devastation this bill will actively and unnecessarily cause at a catastrophic scale.

Susan Collins, Lisa Murkowski, John McCain: every Senator with a family and an understanding that we love ours as you love yours: Don't let this bill pass.

Senator Collins and Senator Murkowski: I didn't know who you were before you stood up for health care. Then you became heroes for me. I didn't follow politics before this year. Now the iniquity of decisions made since January don't leave me with a choice. We know you, now. I just sent information to my sister in Louisiana and to her husband and to their children about Senator Cassidy. No more political than I am, they didn't think about him, before. And now they're permanently appalled.

We are holding each other accountable in a way we never have, before. And we still vote.

Sincerely and with so much hope,

Taije Silverman
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: marycatherine reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of the ACA

Senators

This nefarious attempt by the GOP to cram through a repeal of the Affordable Care Act without use of proper Senate procedure is a sham. Any one of you who votes for this is an embarrassment to the Senate and to your state.

Marycatherine Reed
Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dora Wong [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is odious and harmful

September 22, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to **oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill** (G-C Bill) to repeal and replace The Affordable Care Act.

By all measures this bill is harmful to Americans. Specifically:

1. **The G-C Bills seeks to wantonly modify spending** equivalent to one-sixth of our GDP without a careful assessment from the CBO. That is irresponsible behavior from a governing body that claims to watch out for the welfare of the People.

2. **The G-C Bill adversely affects the health and lives of ALL Americans** by placing ALL health insurance plans in jeopardy - even employment based healthcare plans, not to mention individual markets and expanded Medicaid. The end result will be to raise premiums, undermine coverage and eliminate Medicaid from women, children and seniors who are the most vulnerable. The plan punishes the older population by disproportionately increase their rates, and allows insurers a way out of community rating, thus making it possible to charge astronomical rates for pre-existing conditions.

3. **The G-C Bill discriminates against women in particular.** It defunds Planned Parenthood, Medicaid cuts would especially hurt pregnant women and elderly women who rely on the program. An article in the Guardian reports "Almost half of all births in the United States are paid for by Medicaid, and four of five nursing home residents older than 85 are women, largely supported by Medicaid."

4. **The G-C Bill is ill-intentioned and politically motivated.** It mobilizes against states which opted to expand Medicaid and redistribute money to states which declined the Expanded Medicaid option out of ideology. A healthcare plan should not be a tool for political revenge. A healthcare bill should not be used to provide money to offset the cost of other projects that favor the rich.

5. **The G-C Bill is opposed by** an overwhelming number of health professional organizations, insurance companies and medical directors from all 50 states. Think about another bill that has mobilized so **many sectors from BOTH parties.**

I hope you will abandon the attempt to repeal ACA by budget reconciliation. Elected officials are elected, they can be replaced if they do not honor their oath to serve the Public. Voters remember when their healthcare is ripped away from them. They have long memory when they are personally wronged.

Please return to regular order - work in a bipartisan manner, hold hearings to gather input from all stakeholders and make intelligent legislation to benefit Americans. Corrupting official business to harm the public for personal gain is contrary to the spirit of public service. At the end of the day, integrity will always win over politics.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dora Wong
East Norriton, PA 19403

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Checkley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Question for Graham Cassidy hearing

Please clarify whether or not states will be required to build pre-existing condition protections into their (new?) state exchanges/policies?

Please clarify what options residents will have if they live in a state that does not mandate protection of pre-existing condition insurance buyers? IE., if the Pennsylvania state government uses the new block grant to set up a market that does not protect those with pre-existing conditions, what options for affordable insurance will those residents have?

Please clarify the elevator pitch for this bill - DO NOT include the words "repeal Obamacare." I want to know if it is BETTER than what we have. How does it materially improve the security and well-being of Americans over our current system?

Thank you,

Kathryn
Pennsylvania, 15206

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Kelley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't do this!

Good morning,

I happen to be a lucky person who gets my health care through my spouse's employer, although we pay quite a bit of money for premiums. We are also lucky enough to afford it. My sister struggles with that; her spouse's employer doesn't pay for family, and they have had to search every year for an affordable policy. The Affordable Care Act helped her tremendously in Colorado. (I live in Pennsylvania.) Her daughter and new spouse, only can afford insurance through their parents because they are under 26. Now she is worried because she has two medical conditions that will be pre-existing when she ages out next year. They live in Rhode Island.

None of us wants to see the current version of the health care reform bill to pass. We are all in different states, with different governors and legislatures, and we don't believe there will be enough funding to be able to help the people who need help. I worry tremendously that without any mandate, and without support for insurers to keep rates lower, a huge number of people will be uninsured again. This is not the kind of America I think we should be.

PLEASE do not let this bill go on. PLEASE do keep working to find an affordable solution that benefits people all over the country, at any income level, at all ages, and favors people over insurance companies and hospitals. I think that solution is out there; we're just not there yet.

Thank you,
Sara Kelley

--

Sara Phinney Kelley
Director, Religious Growth and Learning
UU Congregation of the Susquehanna Valley
Northumberland, PA

"When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace; When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love." - Sarah Dan Jones

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GRAHAM-CASSIDY

GENTLEPEOPLE:

IT IS OUTRAGEOUS THAT THE SENATE WOULD CONSIDER ANY PIECE OF LEGISLATION WITHOUT APPROPRIATE HEARINGS, DEBATE AND SCORING BY THE CBO. TO ACTUALLY PROPOSE TO VOTE ON A BILL WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO APPROPRIATE SCRUTINY, PARTICULARLY ONE THAT WILL IMPACT A HUGE PERCENTAGE OF OUR NATIONAL ECONOMY IS A TOTAL ABDICATION OF ANY SENATOR'S OATH OF OFFICE.

I HAVE READ THAT SENATOR GRASSLY HAS STATED IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO FULFILL A CAMPAIGN PROMISE THAN IT IS TO WORRY ABOUT THE IMPACTS SUCH FULFILLMENT MIGHT HAVE....IN MY OPINION THAT MAKES SENATOR GRASSLY UNFIT TO SERVE ANYWHERE IN GOVERNMENT....A SENATOR'S JOB IS TO ACT FAITHFULLY FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL AMERICANS NOT A PARTISAN POLITICAL PARTY AND IN ALL CASES TO ACT RESPONSIBLY AND WITH KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT A YEA OR NAY VOTE WILL ACTUALLY MEAN FOR AMERICANS.

IF THE CASSIDY-GRAHAM BILL PASSES I, FOR ONE, WILL WORK TIRELESSLY TO ASSURE THE DEFEAT OF ALL WHO VOTED FOR IT IN FUTURE ELECTIONS, INCLUDING SENATOR TOOMEY.

DO YOUR JOBS....VOTE NO ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

THOMAS C. REED
PITTSBURGH, PA 15221

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne McGinnis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because

....

States that expanded Medicaid would lose, in total, about 180 billion for ACA coverage and states that refused to expand Medicaid would gain, in total, about \$73 billion from 2020-2026. PA would lose 11 billion (\$11,000,000,000) in federal funds from 2020-2026. The replacement isn't even lasting, the repeal is. It would allow insurers to force people with pre-existing conditions to pay more.

Anne McGinnis

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Saunders [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy; strengthen the individual mandate!

Dear Senators,

I hope you are overwhelmed with emails, letters and phone calls from voters and healthcare professionals opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill. I hope you are receiving so many messages that you don't have time to read mine. But just in case, I would like to focus on one aspect of the ACA: the individual mandate.

I am an American who lived for 20 years in Germany, where what we in the US refer to as an "individual mandate" is a key component of a system in which nearly everyone (99.9%, according to an October 2016 study) has health insurance. Individuals can choose between publicly-subsidized insurance (*Krankenkasse*) and private insurance, but, with few exceptions, they cannot choose to be uninsured. This greatly reduces or eliminates (1) high costs arising from lack of preventive care and (2) personal bankruptcy (and the related costs to the economy) as a result of medical bills.

As I'm sure you know, Germany spends significantly less per capita on healthcare than the United States, but enjoys better public health outcomes (life expectancy, maternal mortality, infant mortality, etc.). I am convinced the legal requirement for health insurance is one main reason.

Here in the United States, some people (maybe even some of you) regard the individual mandate as an affront to American values, freedom, individual liberty. Well, what about my freedom, as a responsible, insured citizen not to foot the bill (in the form of higher costs) for someone who thought he was invincible but got hit by a truck? What about the freedom of a contractor not to get stiffed when his client declares bankruptcy? Whose individual liberty is furthered when a baby ends up in the NICU because the mother had no access to basic, cheap prenatal care? I would much rather contribute to a stable, compassionate system that insures everyone than continue to watch my costs escalating out of control.

Health insurance happens to be one area in which compassion and economic interest are aligned. When the ACA was adopted, I believed my country was on the way to joining the community of developed nations in which universal access to healthcare is recognized as a building block of a stable, prosperous, modern society. I ask you to reject Graham-Cassidy and work together to improve, strengthen and extend the ACA.

Heather Saunders
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Brenneman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

RE: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Name: Dr. Susan Brenneman

Address: [REDACTED] Lansdale, PA 19446

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. Protections for pre-existing conditions and a strong funding for Medicaid must be written into law and preserved for all Americans. These protections are necessary in order for Americans to achieve health.

Thank you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Grimaldi [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comment in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a 31-year-old living with a pre-existing condition: stage 4 or metastatic breast cancer. I need constant treatment to keep my cancer in remission, including daily prescription medications, radiation, and routine scans and diagnostic tests. If the Graham-Cassidy bill is passed, and consumer protections are rolled back, my family and I could face bankruptcy and disruption in my medication, resulting in a return of my disease.

Right now I am able to work, contribute to the economy, and live my life because the Affordable Care Act protects me from having my current or future health insurance company stop paying for my treatments or charge me more because I randomly ended up with this disease. I have no genetic pre-disposition to the disease. Having this disease is not my fault, nor is it my wish, and it is unfair that this bill could allow my state and the insurance companies operating in my state to take advantage of my disease for the sake of profit.

Without important consumer protections, like those under the Affordable Care Act, me and my 52 million fellow Americans with pre-existing conditions risk having our lives hang in the balance.

Sincerely,
Barbara M. Grimaldi
Narberth, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lily Palladino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

As a constituent I write in support of the Affordable Care Act and to express my strong opposition to any future attempts to repeal or weaken this important public health law, including the Graham-Cassidy repeal and replace proposal that contains many of the same negative provisions as the proposals rejected by the Senate earlier this year. The Graham-Cassidy proposal would cut health coverage and raise premiums and out-of-pocket costs for millions, eliminate the Prevention and Public Health Fund, slash federal Medicaid spending and end the ACA's Medicaid expansion, allow states to weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions and eliminate Medicaid reimbursements to Planned Parenthood for one year.

I strongly urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any other effort to repeal or weaken the ACA and instead continue the ongoing bipartisan efforts to improve and strengthen the ACA.

Thank you very much,
Lily Palladino

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

I am against the current bill to replace the ACA. Too many will be adversely impacted and all should be entitled to healthcare. Rethink this.

Kathy Warehime
Gettysburg, Pa

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Rubin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because legislators have not had adequate time to review the bill and the CBO assessment is not complete. It feels highly irresponsible and dangerous to push through a bill that would impact so much of the economy and so many people without a complete picture of what that impact will be.

Thank you for your time,
Katherine Rubin
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Katherine Rubin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: donna platz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Bill

Please do not pass this bill. Keep Obamacare. Two PA voters Thank you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liane Norman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

Everyone in this country needs and deserves good and affordable healthcare. Civilized countries provide free healthcare to all who live within their borders, often even if they're not citizens. (I have personal experience in this matter.) We, the people, provide healthcare to members of Congress and, I presume to members of the Executive and Judicial branches. It's time to stop squabbling about what form that health care takes and provide Medicare for All, which would subsume lesser forms of healthcare. Some healthcare providers who profit off their business will not like it, but it's we, the people of the United States, who are supposed to be represented in Congress.

Liane Ellison Norman
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Dutko [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill The Bill

Graham Cassidy is a death sentence for people with pre existing conditions, like me Pennsylvania cannot afford to lose 1 million dollars

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Nay [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Katherine Nay
[REDACTED]
Glenolden, PA 19036
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to voice my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I am very discouraged that instead of continuing down a bipartisan path and working on issues to improve the strength and stability of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplaces, the sponsors of this legislation have put forward a proposal that will:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
- End expanded Medicaid coverage that helps millions of low-income adults;
- Gut Medicaid through deep, permanent cuts that would grow over time and threaten care for millions of low-income seniors, children, and people living with disabilities and shift massive costs and risks to states;
- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - and worsen - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.
- De-fund Planned Parenthood

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans including older adults, low- and moderate-income families, people living with disabilities, veterans and people with preexisting conditions. It does nothing to improve affordability or availability of coverage for consumers and will likely result in at least one million Pennsylvanians losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.

Sincerely

Melissa Reed

[REDACTED]
Quakertown, PA 18951

Melissa Reed

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ryan Eberly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Ryan Eberly
[REDACTED]
Gordonville, PA 17529
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Keefe, Daniel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate finance committee,

My name is Daniel Keefe, and I live in Swarthmore, PA.

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy bill that is coming up for a vote. I am not alone.

Here is a list of the organizations that oppose this bill:

American Medical Association, American College of Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, JDRF, ALS Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Arthritis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Family Voices, JDRF, Lutheran Services in America, March of Dimes, National Health Council, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Diseases, Volunteers of America, WomenHeart.

Most recently, NAMD or the National Association of Medicaid Directors took the extraordinary step of denouncing the bill. They state that "Graham-Cassidy would completely restructure the Medicaid program's financing, which by itself is three percent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product and 25 percent of the average state budget. Like BCRA, the legislation would convert the traditional Medicaid program into a per-capita cap financing system. All states will be impacted by this change, regardless of their decisions to leverage the Medicaid expansion option under the ACA. It would also incorporate Medicaid expansion funding and other ACA health funds into a block grant, made available to all states. How these block grants will be utilized, what programs they may fund, and the overall impact they will have on state budgets, operations, and citizens are all uncertain."

I understand that Republicans ran on a platform to repeal and replace ACA. I would hope that their loyalties would be to country over party. Sadly, I don't think politicians are working on solving a flawed system. They are working on re-election.

Please vote against this absurd legislation.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing to voice my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. I am very discouraged that instead of continuing down a bipartisan path and working on issues to improve the strength and stability of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplaces, the sponsors of this legislation have put forward a proposal that will:

- Eliminate the financial assistance that helps low- and moderate-income families purchase health care coverage;
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- Jeopardize access to life-saving and effective treatments for addiction and weaken states' efforts to address the current crisis of drug overdose deaths
- Undermine essential protections for people with pre-existing conditions;
- Resurrect - and worsen - the devastating cuts in coverage and benefits that the American public and the majority of Congress have already rejected.
- De-fund Planned Parenthood

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans including older adults, low- and moderate-income families, people living with disabilities, veterans and people with preexisting conditions. It does nothing to improve affordability or availability of coverage for consumers and will likely result in at least one million Pennsylvanians losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.

Sincerely

Melissa Reed
[REDACTED]

Quakertown, PA 18951

Melissa Reed
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ryan Eberly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Ryan Eberly
[REDACTED]
Gordonville, PA 17529
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Thallmayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on Graham/Cassidy

Monday, September 25, 2017 at 1pm the Senate Finance committee will have a hearing on #GrahamCassidy bill to modify the ACA.

This letter is written by Jennifer Thallmayer, Hamburg PA 19526-8003:

Dear Senators,

I strongly urge you to vote no on the Graham/Cassidy bill to modify the ACA. The bill has not been scored by the CBO, but is feared to be worse for America than the last three healthcare repeals by the Republicans.

The United States needs healthcare for everyone, not just for rich senators and the 1%. The ACA provides healthcare for those people having pre-existing conditions, which has been dropped, along with numerous safeguards from the Graham/Cassidy bill.

This bill, if passed, would remove millions of federal dollars from Medicaid and direct that money to the states, depriving us of coverage.

Why does Senator Murkowski of Alaska get to keep the ACA in place for a yes vote? All states deserve to have the ACA instead of the dregs of an insurance plan that the insurance industry itself does not want.

I hope you'll do the right thing and vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill to repeal the ACA.

Thank you,

Jennifer Thallmayer

Hamburg, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Thul [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Barbara Polzer; Heather Lawson; Nancy Salandra; Liberty Community Connections; [REDACTED]
Subject: Cassidy Graham Healthcare Bill Comments for Senate Finance Committee
Attachments: LCC Cassidy Graham Health Care Ltr 9-21-2017.docx
Importance: High

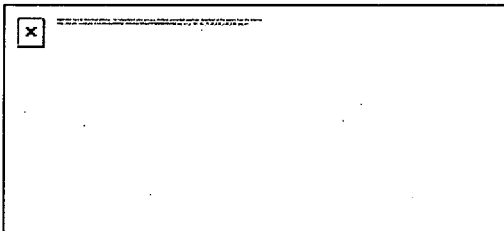
TO: Members of the Senate Finance Committee

Please see the attached comments regarding the Cassidy Graham Health Care Bill on behalf of Liberty Community Connections, Inc. We urge you to read and take action to immediately stop this bill from hitting the floor and robbing 32 million Americans of their healthcare. Healthcare is a Human Right not a Privilege!

Elizabeth "Liz" Thul, LSW
Co-Executive Director
Liberty Community Connections, Inc.

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19107
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

LCC Complaint Email: LCCComplaint@lcconnections.org
LCC Complaint Hotline/Voicemail: 267-765-1515 (x660)



Liberty Community Connections

Liberty Community Connections is a Supports Coordination Agency that provides quality Consumer-directed services for people with disabilities and seniors. [Read more...](#)

This email is written in Verdana 14-point font in accordance with LCC's accessible email standard.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Bernstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

I am one of the millions of Americans that will be affected negatively if the Graham/Cassidy bill gets passed. I am dumbfounded that this bill is being considered without a CBO score. REALLY? This bill will affect 1/6 of our economy, not to mention the terrible impact it will have on the most vulnerable citizens in our society.

As a self-insured woman in my late 50s with a pre-existing condition, I will see my insurance premiums spike beyond my economic means. Surely the whole theory behind a healthcare bill should be to improve coverage and make it more affordable. With no guarantee for states to continue the pre-existing conditions protections, the great possibility that yearly and life-time caps will return and the havoc that this will wreak on healthcare institutions and providers, this bill does nothing to improve the current health insurance marketplace. In fact, it sabotages our current healthcare system.

The reduction to Medicaid will place real hardship on Seniors and the disabled. This bill will take healthcare away from tens of millions. This is not what the majority of American people want. The amount of angst that the Republicans have created trying to kill and sabotage the ACA is in itself outright heartless and mean. It has already had a disabling effect on the healthcare system and predictions that premiums will rise 20% due to the uncertainty this quest to kill Obamacare has created.

The fact that this bill has been created in a partisan manner behind closed doors with no input from healthcare experts makes this and all the past Repeal and Replace ACA proposals criminal negligence. Why would Republicans want to hurt American citizens for the sake of a short-sighted WIN that would provide TAX CUTS to the richest Americans, such as the KOCH regime. Who, by the way, are threatening to cut off hundreds of millions of campaign donations to the Republicans. Basically, Republican Party is showing the American people that they have been bought and paid for by big money; To hell with their constituents and their measly healthcare concerns.

Trust me, the optics on this whole healthcare debacle is not good. As elected officials, your duty is to provide solutions to real problems and work with each other to improve our nation and the lives of everyday citizens. There is no way, shape or form that this Graham/Cassidy bill does any of that. I beg for the Senate to return to regular order to work in a bipartisan manner to solve this complex healthcare conundrum with REAL solutions after consulting with healthcare experts that understand many of the nuances that politicians do not.

Thank You,

Denise Bernstein

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Spear [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I object to the latest Obamacare repeal effort.
It's wrong.
Thank you

Michael Spear, Esq.
Phila., PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carey Corson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham Bill

Senators,

I am imploring you to reject the cruel Cassidy-Graham bill.

Carey Corson
[REDACTED]
Wallingford, PA 19086

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tayler Moots [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Hello,

I am writing to voice my concerns over an ACA repeal. It is irresponsible to take steps forward before the CBO score comes out. It would hurt states like PA and result in millions fewer being insured. Please don't rush on such an important issue.

Sincerely,

Tayler Moots

[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Magnavita [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:54 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is cruel and egregious

My name is Helen Magnavita and I'm a constituent from Slatington, PA 18080.

It is immoral and irresponsible to ram through a bill without a CBO score. Furthermore, Graham-Cassidy Bill is a nasty and egregious bill. It will do nothing to improve healthcare for americans. Sixteen patient and provider groups oppose this bill. AARP opposes this bill because it will harm seniors.

AARP ran a study that stated older americans would face big premium increases. Older people would pay over \$16,000 more per year under Obamacare repeal bill. This would affect my adult children and myself. My 51 year old daughter has Obamacare and she is quite satisfied with it.

I urge congress to work harder and come up with a bipartisan plan to improve the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it.

Thank you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ned Ketyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Bad Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senators Toomey and Casey:

Please listen to the real experts - the AMA, AAP, 50 state Medicaid administrators, numerous governors, and so many more people and organizations who understand healthcare delivery (WHICH IS NOT A PARTISAN ACTIVITY!) much more than you do — and oppose the cruel and vindictive Cassidy-Graham plan. There are no redeeming qualities to this plan. The fact that elected officials support health plans like these, as well as other policies that adversely impact public health — and the fact that you may be perfectly fine with the behavior of the current occupant in the White House — makes you simply a despicable human being in my view. This goes beyond policy; it's about simple human decency. As a medical provider AND as a patient (I have at least three pre-existing conditions — cancer survivor, motor neuron disorder, hypothyroidism — and I'm still in pretty good shape, mostly thanks to phenomenal medical care from doctors, nurses, and therapists), this issue is personal.

LISTEN TO THE EXPERTS! PLEASE! ADMIT THAT YOU ARE NOT AN EXPERT (because, you aren't). And then, FIX THE AMERICAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM — TOGETHER! You'll have lots of partners to help you out.

Ned Ketyer, MD
Pediatric Alliance
AAP Council on Environmental Health
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Pennsylvania (Board member)

[REDACTED]
Venetia, PA 15367
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Gibbs [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because my state, Pennsylvania, will lose a great deal of funding in the next 10 years. Why do Alabama, Idaho, Kansas, Missouri, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin have a projected gain in federal funding under the Graham-Cassidy bill, while my state, Pennsylvania, stands to lose \$15 billion (a decline of 8%) in federal funding? Why does Alaska get an exemption from funding caps, but Pennsylvania doesn't?

Carolyn Gibbs
Pennsylvania 15101

Carolyn Gibbs

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zak Berkman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Reject Graham-Cassidy

Hello -

As someone with severe scoliosis, an aging mother recovering from cancer, and two young children I am acutely aware of the vulnerability people with pre-existing conditions feel regarding health care.

It is irresponsible and unAmerican to rush through a law of this magnitude without fully estimating the economic and human cost. Failure to permit an in-depth public review and discussion as to the bill's overall merits is outrageous. Moreover, to not undertake a rigorous interrogation as to whether the bill is just and fair through the lens of ability, race, gender, age, and other potentially discriminatory factors demonstrates the entrenched prejudice within the bill.

Our Senators should be more conservative and conscious than this. Please reject the bill or be prepared that we will reject you in 2018, 2020, 2022 - that is if we live that long.

Sincerely,
Zachary Berkman
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Harper [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Health care reform

To whom it may concern:

As both a health care provider (licensed clinical psychologist in private practice) and as a single mom who requires health care for herself and her children, I am deeply concerned by the proposed changes to health care policy. Although Obamacare may not be perfect, it has so many benefits that it would be terrible to undo it. I have been able to get my insurance through the marketplace (as a sole proprietorship this is very important to me...it allows me to be a small business) and I have seen my patients have better coverage for mental health as a result of The Affordable Care Act.

I am against *any* program that results in less health care coverage! Please do not pass the current Graham-Cassidy legislation.

Sincerely,
Lynn Harper PhD
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lawbrey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:52 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: This bill is bad government

I am writing to express my firm opposition to yet another ill-conceived attempt to repeal affordable care. This bill stifles ingenuity and entrepreneurialism because sole proprietors can't afford health care. And it is heartless with regard to the sick, disabled, elderly, and low-wage/temp workers. Stop this insanity. Our votes are watching yours.

Lee Awbrey
Zip: 07090 (Delaware Cty, PA)

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Trumpcare bill

There are so many problems with this proposed bill. As I see it, there is NOTHING beneficial to the CITIZENS of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA also known as your CONSTITUENTS in this disastrous proposal. Least of all, the ability to repurpose federal dollars away from coverage to payments to providers or other health care related purposes. So many states are having difficulty balancing their budgets, therefore State legislatures could and would, face pressure to use funds to address state budget issues. Similar to what you have done with the Social Security funds.

I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS BILL!

Cathy Daly

[REDACTED]
Media, PA 19063

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: susan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to share my concerns about the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy Bill. It is irresponsible to vote on a bill that the CBO has not yet scored. This means that somehow senators are comfortable voting on a bill without knowing the full impact. As written, the bill erodes consumer protections, the opposite of what the public should expect from its elected representatives.

This bill will result in those with pre-existing conditions paying more for insurance since the bill will allow insurance firms to charge these individuals more for insurance, likely resulting in those who most need insurance coverage losing it. The reductions and caps to Medicaid funding mean people who currently have coverage will lose it. These impacts go beyond those covered under Medicaid expansion. It also allows states to waive the essential benefits package resulting in a reduction in coverage for millions of individuals.

It is unthinkable that those who are elected to serve the people of this country would pass a bill that will harm so many.

Susan Kretsge
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dotty Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No

Please do not vote for this latest bill to repeal and replace ACA.
Thank you
Dorothy Lee
Swarthmore, Pa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Gunning [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

My name is Kimberly Gunning and I am from Bryn Mawr Pennsylvania.
I would like to ask – no implore – you to stop this new health care bill from passing.
We are taxpayers and voters. The American people deserve more. It is up to you to stop this.

Thank you.

Kimberly J. Gunning

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Tompkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

I am an ordained clergy person, parish minister, and chaplain to young people in the local community. I am writing to register my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Please do not pass this bill. As a resident of Pennsylvania, I believe it would adversely affect people in my state. We would receive nearly \$7 billion less in federal funding - jeopardizing the health of so many of our people, especially the most needy. It seems clear that this bill would lead to destabilization of the insurance market, and fewer benefits for families, low-income people, and those with special needs. It is significant that the APA, the AARP, and the AMA have all come out in opposition to this bill.

I urge you to vote against it in the Senate.

Thank you,
The Rev. Joyce U. Tompkins
Trinity Episcopal Church, Swarthmore PA

--
Joyce U. Tompkins, D. Min
Director of Religious and Spiritual Life
Swarthmore College

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christa Levko [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not pass this bill

Hello,

My name is Christa Levko and I'm an attorney working in Philadelphia. I was so excited to start a full time job last month and advance my career. Because they are a small firm, however, they do not provide health benefits. I have numerous health conditions that require me to take daily medication and have regular doctor's appointments. Luckily, I qualified for a tax credit through the marketplace under the ACA. If you repeal these tax credits I will need to pay an additional \$300 a month. I don't know where that money would come from. Regular employment does not mean regular disposable income after all other bills have been paid. Basic healthcare is a human right. I don't know why you would deny basic health care to millions of Americans like me

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

--
Christa Levko, Esq.
LGBT Advocate, Nonprofit Volunteer, Peer Support Provider and Coordinator
Hofstra Law School '15
Lebanon Valley College '12

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Korryn Mozisek [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Seek Bipartisan solutions please

Dear Senators:

This morning I sit at my desk worried. My mind drifts away from the work that I should be getting done to the harm that could come from the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. I worry about the families I know who benefit from Medical Assistance in Pennsylvania. I worry about my aging parents who can barely afford coverage now, but who would see their premiums skyrocket under the Graham-Cassidy bill. I worry about my numerous friends and family members who have pre-existing conditions. And, I worry about me as I too have pre-existing conditions.

Most who look at me see an active, athletic, and healthy 37 year old woman. Over the summer I completed my first half iron distance triathlon – all 70.3 miles of it in under 8 hours – hence why many might see me as the epitome of healthy. But like so many in this country, I have numerous pre-existing conditions. Since I was a young child, I've had multiple large, irregularly shaped moles removed from my body. I even got to have a scare of skin cancer at 22 when the removed mole showed to contain pre-cancerous cells. After a large excising of the tissue, seven stitches, and nerve pain for months in my abdomen, I was told that I'd be fine, but to keep an even closer eye on my moles than I had in the first 22 years of my life. I now get yearly check-ups to be safe. But that scare at 22 has stayed with me.

I have other pre-existing conditions as well; I have a history of allergies and suffered multiple concussions while playing sports. In stripping away the patient protections of the ACA, though, you are saying that it is okay for insurance companies to single me out, to target me for higher rates even though all I have done was try to lead an active lifestyle and was born with large moles and allergies. How is that fair? And, how does that uphold Christian values of loving one another?

I hope you think of me, my friends, and my family when you vote to protect all of us. I hope you think about my fellow hard working Pennsylvanians who will lose the health coverage that they desperately need in their lives if this bill passes.

Rather than ramming a flawed, partisan bill through Congress, please follow the lead of Governors across the United States and craft a bipartisan bill that can address concerns from across the political spectrum without putting so many lives like my own in peril. The lives of many are in your hands, I hope that you understand the great responsibility you have to all of us, not simply to a political party.

Sincerely,

Korryn Mozisek

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Tileston [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill being rammed through the Senate because having a chronic condition and relying on Medicaid, I live with the fear that my daily medication will be taken away. Being American but having lived overseas for 18 years in different countries and having had free health care (just as good in India, England and France as here), I never thought of health care as a *commodity* like oil or coffee. Health care a money making machine? *NO, LIFE OR DEATH.*
Call it Trumpcare 3, as long as it is a commodity, this Graham-Cassidy Bill is a killing machine.

Thank you,
Carol Tileston
Philadelphia PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Henicle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Anne Gingerich, MSW
Subject: Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations Comments Regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill (HR 1628)

We write to amplify the concerns of Pennsylvania-based charitable nonprofits as the 115th Congress considers the version of H.R. 1628 that Senators Graham and Cassidy have introduced in an attempt to meet a September 30th deadline.

Because we appreciate the complexities of health care reform, our first concern is that this proposed plan of action does not allow health care providers and their constituents to think through the long-term implications of a decision that impacts the lives of all Americans, but particularly those who live their lives one medical emergency away from homelessness. **We strongly urge you to wait until the Congressional Budget Office has had the time to do a full analysis of this bill's impact on Pennsylvanian residents.**

As a 920 member organization, PANO encourages grassroots advocacy between our members and your district offices when our members collectively come together around a common issue. Healthcare is one of those issues. **We need a bill that will expand rather than contract affordable coverage and that will promote affordability for all Americans.**

This current bill threatens the health of various groups of vulnerable Pennsylvanians including:

- Those with pre-existing conditions
- Veterans
- Children who depend on CHIP funding
- Those over the age of 50

When we surveyed our constituents regarding the elimination of Medicaid, participants said the following about the impact on their clients:

- *Diabetes costs would significantly increase, costing our clients more for medical care they cannot afford*
- *The Veteran community would be without service-connected ailments*
- *It would harm low-income women and their children*
- *The vulnerable seniors we serve in our health care settings would not be able to pay for their care*
- *98% of our clients receive our services through Medicaid programs. The impact would be devastating*

We urge you to expand healthcare access and reject proposals, like the Graham and Cassidy Healthcare Bill, that would cause millions of Americans to lose their coverage or make harmful changes to Medicaid.

1. Healthcare coverage should be affordable, attainable, and adequate to meet the health needs of children, families and individuals.
2. Medicaid is critical to families and communities. Currently, Medicaid comprehensive and affordable healthcare coverage to **2.8 Million Pennsylvanians** who would otherwise go uninsured. These include our most vulnerable populations: children, seniors and people with disabilities.
3. Medicaid protects working families from financial hardships and ensures their children have healthcare to remain healthy and have the opportunity to succeed in school.

We ask you to support our communities by opposing this bill and seeking to come to a solution that provides affordable, attainable and adequate healthcare for all children, families and individuals living in Pennsylvania.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gillian Byerly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:58 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DON'T REPEAL

As a single mother with two children under the age of 9, this bill would bury my family. I currently purchase insurance for myself through the ACA. I am healthy and active 45 year old. I have a Master's degree from the University of London and I am the Executive Director of a small non-profit.

But if this bill replaces the ACA, myself and my children will lose care because we all have pre-existing conditions - myself because I had 2 emergency C-sections. My son because he has a bicuspid aortic valve and my daughter because this year she underwent surgery to remove a tangerine-sized brain tumor. My salary barely covers my bills and mortgage. Additional health care costs will put me into immediate debt or cause me to defer medical treatment. How can I support my family and contribute to my community with the burden and stress of losing health coverage, which would in turn potentially cause me to lose my home?

This bill is a HUGE mistake. Please do not support it.

Sincerely,
Gillian Byerly
Harrisburg, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Libby Elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please stop fucking with the health of millions of Americans before you have any clue of how to cover them. This bill is another atrocity that deserves to die. We deserve better. My patients deserve better. No one should go bankrupt to cover medical expenses.

Dr. Elizabeth Elliott
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bonnie Chang [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

no one in the healthcare business supports the Graham Cassidy bill; people who provide healthcare service, insurance company, organizations who are watch dogs and think tank for safeguarding and providing services are all shocked that our esteemed Senate would even consider a bill like this. there's no financial assessment, no CBO score, no real understanding on how this bill is going to be implemented by 50 states. not only is this going to jeopardize people's healthcare, it will create MAJOR financial chaos. people will die and the financial communities will be severely hurt by the uncertainty and calamity caused by unpaid healthcare costs, increased debt and bankruptcy. Is this worth a political "WIN" because someone made pledges to repeal Obamacare? think twice before you support this bill.

bonnie chang & robert hsu

[REDACTED]
new hope, pa 18938

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peggy Shaffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against repeal

As a woman I am totally against the repeal as it would impact women the most. Also, what about all the people with pre-existing conditions? I am having a hard time understanding the coldness of this action. As someone who works in the mental health field I fear for those who need medications and may be denied and then be in jail.



Margaret "Peggy" Shaffer, CPA
Accountant
MHA of Lancaster County
[REDACTED] Lancaster, PA | 17601-4585
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Claire Gawinowicz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: How Graham-Cassidy will NEGATIVELY Affect Me and My Family

Good morning:

Graham-Cassidy will cause my premiums to go up. I am a senior citizen who buys health insurance on the individual market. According to AARP, Graham-Cassidy will allow insurance companies to charge older people more. That is not fair. Why would you do that to me and others like me?

Graham-Cassidy will gut Medicaid. My disabled brother lives in a Medicaid personal care home. If his Medicaid is cut, he will literally be homeless and without his medications. Why would you do that to him and others like him?

Thank you,
Claire Gawinowicz
Oreland, PA 19075

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juanita Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE STOP THE REPEAL AND FIX ACA OBAMACARE

THIS PROPOSED BILL, THE AMERICAN HEALTHCARE ACT ("AHCA" AKA "TRUMPCARE"), WILL NOT WORK FOR AMERICA, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, FAMILIES, CHILDREN SUFFERING LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND MEDICAL FACILITIES!! FURTHERMORE, OVER 24 MILLION PEOPLE WILL LOSE COVERAGE!! PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS ARE AT RISK!! PREMIUMS WILL INCREASE!! I PROPOSE BOTH PARTIES WORK TOGETHER TO FIX THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ("ACA" AKA: "OBAMACARE") THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS!!

JUANITA JONES
PHILADELPHIA
19151

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Voet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't repeal/replace the ACA

Dear Senate Finance Committee

Don't repeal/replace the ACA. The new bill is terrible. The new bill does not cover people well enough to be called "healthcare". More like "health doesn't care". For example, "You got cancer again? Sorry you've hit your lifetime cap. Health doesn't care". What's that person supposed to do? No one can pay for cancer treatment out of pocket, that's what insurance is for. Oh except your version of insurance doesn't pay after a certain limit has been reached. Your version is going to mean that cancer patient is going to be denied treatment because insurance no longer pays... and now they get to just die.

You don't cover pre existing conditions, pregnancy, or medication? And premiums will increase beyond the current astronomical rates? Sounds pretty useless. And it has not been properly evaluated by the budget office. Quit sneaking legislation past us. Get input from all sides and let the budget office evaluate it. Enough of the dishonest, integrity free, sneaky weasel behavior. You are playing with people's lives! Start accepting the responsibility you've been given to make sure healthcare is a right in this country!

Judy Voet

--
Judith G. Voet, J. H. Hammons Professor, Emeritus
Swarthmore College Department of Chemistry/Biochemistry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Rose Valley, PA 19086
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Baker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Senators/Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

As a former special education teacher, the aunt of a special needs adult, and a citizen of the United States, I am extremely disappointed and horrified that another attempt at a so-called “health care” bill or Graham-Cassidy is being put to a vote.

First, it is shameful that regular order, hearings on the bill, real discussion with senators on both sides of the aisle, etc. is not happening. What kind of government has Congress resorted to??

Second, Graham-Cassidy will cause, among other things, millions of adults with disabilities to lose their healthcare and health services. It will cost hundreds of dedicated folks who work in human services caring and empowering those most vulnerable among us to lead lives to their fullest potential to lose their very jobs.

Besides depriving millions of people adequate health insurance through Medicaid, thousands of people working in rural hospitals and health centers across our country will lose their jobs.

Finally, I ask, how can a health care bill be good for the country when, the groups cited below say:

It “violates the precept of ‘first do no harm’” and “would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage.” – *American Medical Association*, which represents doctors.

It is “the worst healthcare bill yet.” – *American Nurses Association*.

It “would erode key protections for patients and consumers.” – *American Hospital Association*.

The “process [in the Senate] is just as bad as the substance. ... Most Americans wouldn’t buy a used car with this little info.” – *AARP*.

The bill will “weaken access to the care Americans need and deserve.” – *American Heart Association*, jointly with the *American Cancer Society*, *Cancer Action Network*, the *American Diabetes and Lung associations*, the *Cystic Fibrosis Foundation*, the *March of Dimes* and others.

“This bill harms our most vulnerable patients.” – *American Psychiatric Association*.

It would hurt “consumers and patients by further destabilizing the individual market; cutting Medicaid; pulling back on protections for pre-existing conditions.” – *America’s Health Insurance Plans*.

It “would lead to a loss of health insurance for at least 32 million people after 2026. ... By repealing the ACA’s coverage expansions and cutting deeply into the Medicaid program, the Graham-Cassidy bill threatens the health care of as many as 100 million people, from newborns to the elderly.” – *Sara Collins, The Commonwealth Fund*.

(from the New York Times - September 22, 2017)

Thank you,
Chris Baker
Hershey, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Baylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public comment

I am writing to share my recent experience with the Affordable Care Act. I am 42 years old, reasonably healthy but this summer I moved to Pennsylvania from Washington, DC, in part, to pursue medical treatment with a recommended physician. Once I established residency in Pennsylvania I found out that the new practice did not accept my Washington, DC-based health insurance, even though it was a PPO. At my first appointment I had to pay \$300 out of pocket just for an evaluation. It was quite a shock and I knew that without good health insurance coverage I would never be able to afford treatment. Thankfully the ACA made it possible for me to get the coverage I needed and I was able to enroll in a Pennsylvania-based plan midway through the year. The process had its barriers but the staff at healthcare.gov helped me qualify for the special enrollment period by providing guidance about the correct documentation I needed to submit.

The Affordable Care Act provided peace of mind because I was confident the marketplace would offer quality coverage. For example, I knew the plans would allow me to see my doctor as an outpatient, go to the hospital if I needed it, and, as a woman, I knew I would be able to go get coverage for family planning care. I also knew that the price of my premiums would not spiral out of control because of my past medical needs and that I would be able to see a doctor of my choice. In August I enrolled in a gold-level PPO for \$611 per month. This is a lot of money because previously I paid about \$100 per month for my share of an employer-based plan. I am relying on the ACA's subsidies and tax credits to make my plan affordable.

Please do not eliminate Obamacare. Citizens like me rely on the tax credits to make quality insurance affordable and rely on coverage guarantees to stay healthy!

Thank you
Elizabeth Baylor
Merion Station, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Nadel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Please don't pass the terrible Graham-Cassidy Bill!

My children and I get our healthcare through ACA and save over 10K by doing that instead of employer-based coverage.

PA will have more uninsured if this passes! In my experience with block grants over the years, there are always big cuts to the most vulnerable people and programs.

I am OPPOSED to Graham-Cassidy.

Helen Nadel
[REDACTED]
Swarthmore PA 19081
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Hunsinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: don't vote to send Graham Cassidy on to the Senate

[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15227

Dear Committee Members:

I have Health insurance as a retired Federal employee so I'm just asking you to do what is right. I don't have as much skin in this game as people who have their Health Insurance through the Affordable Care Act or the people who need Medicaid to help cover their medical expenses. I have family and friends who count on the changes that the Affordable Care Act has given them. They no longer qualify as members of a group with possible employer subsidy of health insurance.

Now that they have this coverage, they are no longer blackballed from coverage because of pre-existing conditions. They shouldn't have significantly higher premiums just because they are getting older. Those young people who could be in the system are supposed to offset the older people's costs. I did that for years when I was young and healthy and employed. I appreciate that my employer contributed to my coverage, but I know that now as an older retired person, my premiums aren't higher just because I am older. I have younger people to cushion my costs. Because my friends and family now can qualify for Affordable Care coverage, they no longer have to pray that they don't get sick or have a reoccurrence of a problem from the past. Yes, this insurance is somewhat expensive, but we should work on fixing the system that causes medical costs to be so high instead of just saying that the Federal Government is getting out of the business. You can't have a system for people of all ages that allows anyone who doesn't think the insurance will be needed to opt out.

I don't know that you actually have good estimates of the number of people who will be affected, nor do you know what impact the block grants for Medicaid will have on each state. Don't do a rush job on this bill just to stay within the time limits set by a particular rule that is supposed to run out at the end of the month.

The People who will be hurt by a YES VOTE for Graham Cassidy are people who speak softly and don't make many campaign contributions. They are The Disabled, Older People, Lower Income People, and Anyone who needs long term care. They are constituents too.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine S. Hunsinger

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Taing [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I'm writing as a concerned citizen about this bill. I think it's disgusting what you're doing to the American people. While you support an administration where the cabinet members take private jets from D.C. to Philadelphia, at \$25,000 a trip on the taxpayer's dime, you are trying to take away health care from the neediest, in the name of cutting waste.

Pre-CBO estimates that up to 30 million people will lose their insurance if this plan takes effect. Your lack of compassion and care for the American people and your constituents is evident in the way you're trying to ram through this bill without allowing time for its effects to be studied - I'm sure you don't even know the effects and you don't care.

The 2026 expiration date for the state block grants that you've included in the bill are to insulate yourselves from the calamity and suffering this bill will cause and is disgusting. Every measure you've taken in the bill only serves to hurt the American people and help yourselves - from insulating yourselves from the fall-out, to passing a horrible bill just so you can say you've made well on your ridiculous promise of the last 7 years, which will allow the Koch brothers' coffers to flow again.

I hope that you will instead put the American people ahead of your personal interests - what you were elected to do.

Susan Taing
Montgomery County, PA

--
Susan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Caliendo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because of how the proposed measures will have a negative impact on the health of American citizens. I want you to abandon your attempts to pass this harmful bill. I will address 2 of the issues I believe to be the most egregious: repealing Medicaid expansion and allowing individual states to opt out of providing basic health benefits.

You are well aware that Medicaid provides life-sustaining health care to a wide slice of the American population. You are also aware that many of these Americans are, or have been, highly contributing members of society who are faced with medical bills beyond the ability of normal individuals to pay. I have a doctoral degree in nursing. I am recently retired after a nursing career that spanned 50 years. Through hard work and careful planning I now collect a monthly retirement annuity stipend which allows me to live a comfortable life. However, I know that one illness (a stroke? a heart attack? metastatic cancer?) could wipe out all my cherished savings and require me to seek Medicaid funding for long-term skilled care. My adult nephew was born with Down Syndrome. He is gainfully employed and has parents who care for him. Without Medicaid funds to supplement his health care bills, my nephew would not be alive to bring his special sunshine into the hearts of his beloved family .

My nursing expertise is in the area of maternity and women's health care. I have seen first-hand the health benefits of good prenatal and postpartum care and well-woman gynecology. I understand how early intervention in depression and other mental illness or addiction can lead to better health status as well as decreasing the bottom line cost of continued care in these areas. It makes no sense at all to allow a state to opt out of covering such important health intervention.

I ask that you vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. Put yourself in the place of regular Americans and ask yourself, 'Would I want my own or my child's life to depend on the coverage (or non-coverage) provided by this bill?' I know that you would not, therefore, you MUST VOTE NO.

Thank you for the opportunity to address my concerns about this disgraceful legislation.

Carol Caliendo RN, CRNP, MSN, ND
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, PA 15205
[REDACTED]

Carol Caliendo

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Dexter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments

Senators,

The proposed Graham Cassidy bill is not a good bill if the goal is to improve healthcare for citizens.

At a minimum no vote should occur until is it scored by CBO.. Ideally, there should not be any changes to the ACA until congress has held hearings, consulted with experts and fully consider the wishes of the American people.

Any healthcare bill must protect those of us who have preexisting conditions. That protection must include protection from unaffordable premiums or co-pays. The bill should not allow individual states the ability to waive away those protections.

Any healthcare bill must protect Medicare and Medicaid now and into the future.

Thanks
Lisa Dexter
Media, PA



September 21, 2017

GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

We learned today that your Committee will hold a hearing on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill on Monday, September 25, 2017 and are accepting comments. Thank you for taking the time to read our comments on behalf of Liberty Community Connections, Inc. (LCC) staff and our 3,343-low income disabled consumers and seniors whose lives depend on the outcome of this upcoming vote and bill. Senators, we will not go back! The Graham-Cassidy health care bill is inhumane and the worst repeal yet. LCC, its 3,300 plus consumers and approximately 100 staff vehemently oppose this harmful bill that will rob 30 million people of health care coverage and halt the gains made through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The Cassidy-Graham bill will wreak havoc and only cause chaos on the health care industry. The American Hospital Association, AARP, nurses, doctors and hospital social workers are against this bill. Millions of people losing coverage will drive up the cost of healthcare. For our LCC seniors and disabled consumers, it will threaten every one of them who will be considered to have a preexisting condition. Their lives are on the line and there is absolutely no guarantee that the Graham-Cassidy bill will protect anyone with a pre-existing condition regardless of what President Trump is telling the American people. If the cuts to Medicaid go through, PEOPLE WILL DIE! No American should have to die because of the lack of access to healthcare. This is by far the worst repeal yet and would have the same horrendous consequences as the prior bills. This is utterly a sabotage of the healthcare system and will only bring uncertainty to the market.

We respectfully ask the members of the Senate Finance Committee to please take the time to read these comments and understand what our organization does and how many people's lives will be harmed by the devastating effects of the Graham-Cassidy bill. This is a last-ditch attempt to get something passed before September 30th because the GOP would only need 50 votes. This is a disgrace and an embarrassment to our country! This is about the lives of people

and their healthcare, not a deadline because the GOP will need 60 plus votes after September 30th -- which they will not get. Most the American people DO NOT support this bill. This is our country and our elected officials work for us, the American people. We need a CBO score on this bill. Please do not pass this in the dark and urge bipartisan collaboration which has been happening over the last several weeks.

Who we are and what we do: Liberty Community Connections coordinates quality consumer-directed services for people with disabilities and seniors and advocates for equality, dignity and access to independent living. We provide these essential services in 22 counties across the state of Pennsylvania. Our services are rooted in the Independent Living Philosophy. This means that we promote consumer control in choices and decisions regarding services, inclusion, and equal access to the community, and advocacy. We continually strive to uphold these core values in providing these critical social services to low-income seniors and disabled consumers.

Our 70 Supports Coordinators (Case Managers) and Managers work tirelessly every day to prevent costly nursing home admissions, provide information and community referrals for necessities like food, utility assistance, enrollment in senior centers etc. They assess for personal care assistance (attendant care) for consumers needing help with bathing, dressing, cooking etc. to keep them in their community and in their home. When we transition a consumer out of a nursing home, some may need home modifications like a ramp to gain entrance to their home or stair glide to reach the second floor to their bedroom; durable medical equipment like a wheelchair, shower chair or grab bars; assistive technology like a door opener; non-medical transportation to get to their job, place of worship or senior center day program or Meals on Wheels; and personal emergency response systems in the event of an emergency or life-threatening fall in their home.

We have been providing supports coordination (case management) services for over 30 years and are the largest supports coordination agency in the state of Pennsylvania providing the highest quality of services. We have empowered thousands of people with disabilities and seniors to live independently, in non-institutional settings, choosing how and where they live, and what services they receive. Don't we all wish this for ourselves, our children, our parents and grandparents? This bill hurts people in every state not just Pennsylvania.

Natalie's story: *Natalie's health insurance is Medicaid. She was born with cerebral palsy. She is one of hundreds of consumer success stories because of the collaboration with Liberty Resources' Nursing Home Transition (NHT) team. After living in institutions for most of her life, Natalie was recently discharged from a nursing home in Philadelphia where she was isolated and segregated from the outside world. Words cannot describe Natalie's excitement to move into her own apartment and into the community for the first time ever! Liberty Resources NHT Team, Liberty Community Connections Team of Managers, Supports Coordinator and Nurse worked for months on end with Providers and the nursing home staff to ensure she would have a smooth and safe transition. Natalie has been living happily in her own apartment (almost half the cost of a nursing home) since March and directs her own care independently. She has not been hospitalized while being in the community, loves NASCAR, and volunteers at Liberty Resources Center for Independent Living.*

Again, we urge you take these comments into consideration and stop this bill from ever seeing the floor. Healthcare is a right – not a privilege! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or would like further clarification on the work we do and the life threatening impact this draconian bill will have on our consumers lives.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Thul

Elizabeth Thul
Co-Executive Director
Liberty Community Connections
112 N. 8th Street, Suite 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107
267-765-1515 ext. 461
elizabeththul@lcconnections.org

Barb Polzer

Barb Polzer
Co-Executive Director
Liberty Community Connections
919 S. 9th Street
Allentown PA 18103
610-432-3880 Ext 2020
BarbPolzer@lcconnections.org

Heather Lawson

Heather Lawson, Quality Management Assistant Director
Liberty Community Connections
112 N. 8th Street, Suite 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107
267-765-1515 ext. 302
heatherlawson@lcconnections.org

cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Nancy Salandra, Director, Independent Living Services, Liberty Resources, Inc.
Senator Robert Casey
Senator Pat Toomey
Liberty Community Connections, Inc. Staff and Consumers

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Zervas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because there are so many people in America who depend on the Affordable Care Act to stay healthy, so they can go to work and take care of themselves and their families. My daughter struggles with dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse and depends on Medicaid to stay alive. This wasn't available until our new governor opened PA up to the expanded Medicaid program. My daughter fights with all her might to get and stay well, but she needs the help of the system. She just can't do it on her own. And no one should have to.

America is much much better than that. Instead of taking the ACA apart, we need to fix what needs fixing. We know when you are working to sabotage the program, keep insurers off kilter, so you can say the plan is failing. Please don't play games with us. Health care is a right for all, not just those who are fortunate enough to be able to afford it.

Respectfully,

Rachel Zervas
Lansdowne, PA

Rachel Zervas
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christina Niemeyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because it is an assault on Medicaid and the veterans who depend upon it. Many veterans do not live near a VA hospital from which they can get their care; instead, eligible through the Medicaid expansion for Medicaid, they can go to rural hospitals and clinics for treatment. Repealing the Medicaid expansion and turning Medicaid into a block grant program will mean the loss of critical care for those who have sacrificed dearly for our country.

This bill's lack of respect for those patriotic Americans who chose to serve our country is an absolute disgrace.

Christina Niemeyer

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Rios [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it would directly affect the community I work with, as well as family and friends. These individuals depend on their healthcare coverage to maintain good health, and for many to receive the necessary treatment and care vital to their health and safety. It is important that these individuals continue to receive the care they absolutely require and deserve. It would be a huge disservice to these families to lose coverage and be impacted by changes due to the proposed healthcare bill/reform. Furthermore, it would be shameful for this bill to be passed and for these individuals who desperately need their healthcare coverage to lose their coverage and be negatively impacted by those changes. The community I work for are individuals with intellectual disabilities, some of whom do not have a voice to demand their healthcare coverage and advocate for themselves.

Please consider this and all of those people who will be negatively affected by the changes in healthcare due to the proposed bill.

Thank you in advance, for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Rios

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alyce Callison [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

This bill is appalling. I'm a Pennsylvanian, and my state stands to lose \$8.3 billion in Medicaid funding. I have a pre-existing condition, as does everyone in my family, including my young children. This bill opens up pre-existing conditions to discrimination again. People will literally die. Supporting this bill is simply indefensible and inhumane. If you have problems with the ACA, work through regular order, not this reckless mess of a rushed bill.

Thank you.

Alyce Callison

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JULIE GERHART [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Gamel-McCormick, Michael (Aging)
Subject: Fwd: Vote no on Graham Cassidy
Attachments: Video.MOV; ATT00001.txt; Video_1.MOV; ATT00002.txt

Please vote no on Graham Cassidy. My son benefits from Medicaid in PA. He has Down syndrome, and Medicaid provides him with many of the services that allow him to be fully included in his first grade class. He reads at a first grade level, and does math alongside his peers.

>> Funding Medicaid and the services it provides now means he will likely need less government-funded support as an adult. We should think of Medicaid funding of individuals with disabilities and schools as spending a dime now to save a dollar later.

>>

>> Video 1 is Evan reminding you to Vote no. Video 2 is Evan in his class, doing first-grade math, just like his peers.

>>

>> Regards, Julie Gerhart-Rothholz

>>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark B. Cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy testimony

Please disseminate to Senators.

As I observe the High Holiday of Rosh Hashanah in my synagogue it strikes me that when the Torahs are out of the ark everyone is directed to stand. We kiss our prayer book and then touch the Torah with our prayerbooks because these are the words of our ancestors. Because words are so important as to be cherished, respected and should inform our daily actions.. Because words matter.

We have a tradition called D'vor D'vor which means from generation to generation. As you contemplate your vote on Graham Cassidy please think about the effects this will have upon generations of vulnerable citizens. What will you tell my former students who are on the autism spectrum and my brother with cerebral palsy when they lose their services? What will you tell your children about your stance and your place in history? What will you stand for if not the most vulnerable amongst us? Will you be on the right side of history?
D'vor D'vor

Thank you,
Mona Cohen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia. Pa, 19111

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stan & Pam Dull [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please do not pass this bill. The results would be devastating to our country. We need universal healthcare.
Thank you for your time.
Pam Dull
Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Guy Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #GrahamCassidy bill is #HealthKill

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill / Amendment.

Guy Jensen
[REDACTED]
Etters, Pa 17319

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Copley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

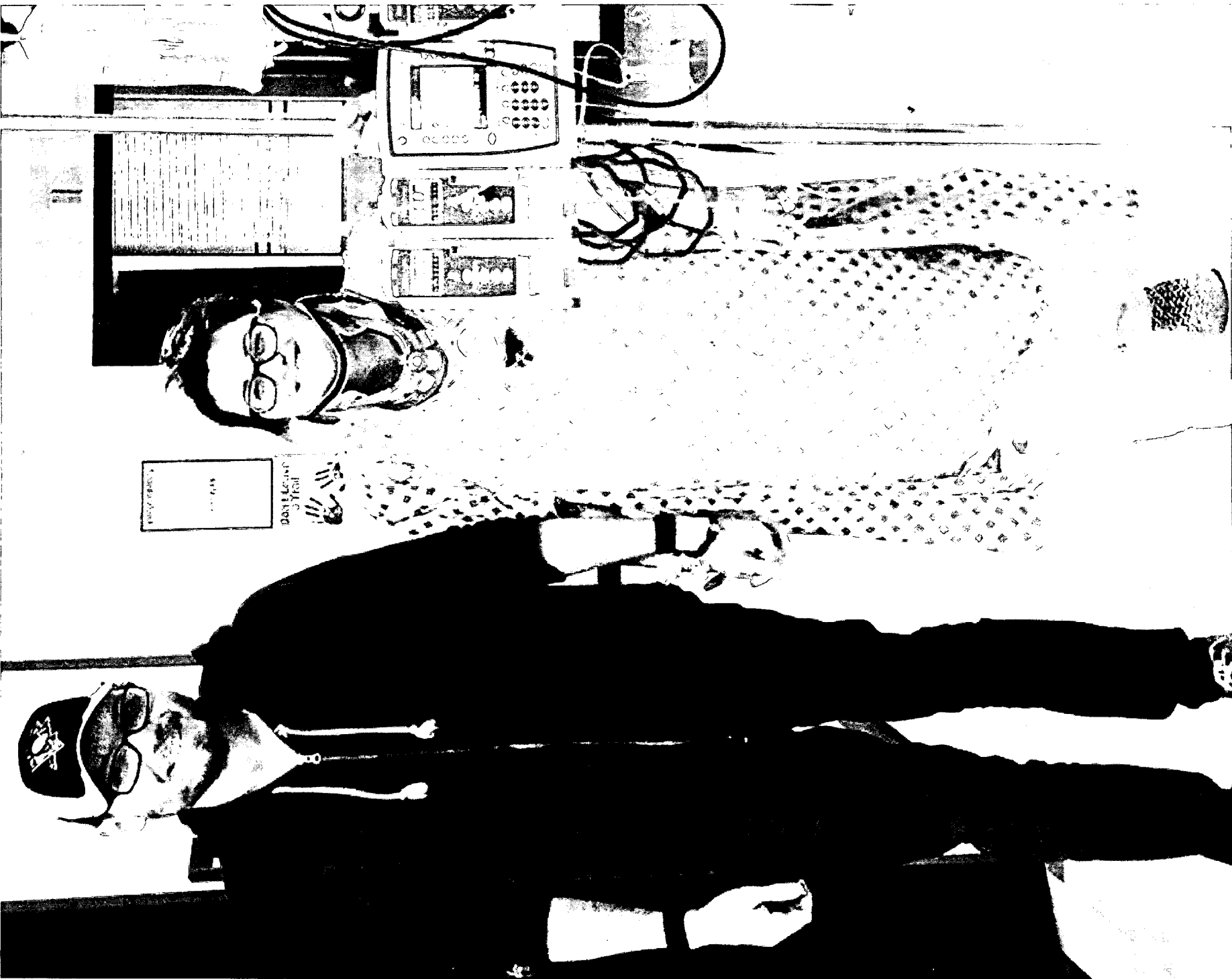
My name is Kaitlin Copley and I am from Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania. I am writing to you about my opposition to the Graham Cassidy plan.

The Graham Cassidy plan would cause many millions of people to lose coverage, radically restructure and deeply cut Medicaid, eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and increase out-of-pocket costs for individual market consumers. This would be devastating to millions and millions of Americans.

This new plan would greatly hurt my family. Simply put, without the federal protections of the ACA, I may die. My husband will die. It is estimated that 32 million Americans will lose their healthcare coverage in 10 years with Graham Cassidy. My husband and I will be apart of that 32 million. My husband and I both have chronic illnesses and would be denied insurance coverage if the law did not protect those with preexisting conditions. The state should not get to decide this. My husband, Matthew, who is a children's therapist working with kids with autism, has type 1 diabetes, an autoimmune disease. Without affordable insulin he would die of diabetic ketoacidosis within days of stopping insulin. The price of insulin is already too high and we often have to scrimp and save to provide him with life sustaining treatment. I have a genetic connective tissue disorder called Ehlers Danlos Syndrome. I was also born with congenital heart defects. Before the ACA I was covered on my father's insurance. Thanks to the ACA I was able to stay on his insurance until I was 26 and then was able to purchase my own insurance without being discriminated against. I also get Medicaid, as I am disabled from Ehlers Danlos Syndrome. Matthew was not diagnosed with type 1 diabetes until the ACA was already in place. With the insurance that I've been able to purchase for myself I have been able to undergo two neurosurgeries and will be having my third on November 7, 2017. These surgeries were necessary because complexions from Ehlers Danlos Syndrome that would have caused paralysis

if I did not have an intervention. Medicaid does not cover any of my surgical expenses because the only neurosurgeons that specialize in my condition are out of state. If it were not for the insurance that I individually purchased I would not have been able to get my surgeries. Without insurance my husband will die. Without insurance my best case scenario is paralysis. Let me repeat this, if you chose to repeal the ACA and replace it, you will kill my husband. You will cause my paralysis and my possible death. We will not have the money to pay for different insurance. We cannot afford the insurance premiums we will have to pay if we are placed in high risk pools. High risk pools are dangerous to those with preexisting conditions because many will not be able to pay the large premiums. We will quickly blow past lifetime caps. This should not be a state decision! Every American, no matter the state in which they reside, should be guaranteed the same healthcare! I have attached photos of my husband and myself. Hopefully looking at our faces will help you to see that we are real Americans who just want to be able to purchase insurance and continue with our lives. Thank you so much for reading this and your consideration.

Kaitlin Copley
Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania



DO NOT TOUCH
3 Year





Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Kerr [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee Members,

I have read the proposal from Senator's Graham and Cassidy that would repeal and replace the current Affordable Care Act. My husband has a pre-existing Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML). CML is a serious disease that currently requires life-long treatment. In some cases, a stem-cell or bone marrow transplant is required to survive. The language in the bill allows States to obtain a waiver to the current requirement for covering individuals with pre-existing conditions. There is nothing specifically stated in the bill that requires that States offer affordable health insurance to individuals with pre-existing conditions that INCLUDES COVERAGE FOR THE PRE-EXISTING CONDITION. Without specific requirements, States could offer coverage to my husband that is affordable, but it may not cover a procedure such as stem-cell transplant or pay for the chemotherapy or tests that are required for patients with CML. Senator Cassidy said that the bill protects those with pre-existing conditions. He's wrong. And every time he says it does he is lying to the American people.

The only reason this bill is being proposed and supported by Republicans is to appease party donors. Nothing in this bill will help IMPROVE the healthcare of Americans. Its shameful and appalling. I don't know how these men and women sleep at night knowing that they support a bill that would strip health insurance coverage from MILLIONS AND MILLIONS of people.

The Affordable Care Act is far from perfect but it has helped 10's of millions of people get healthcare. The bi-partisan group working on improvements to the ACA should continue their work until they have solutions that would guarantee that all Americans have access to affordable, comprehensive health insurance.

Sincerely,
Sandra Kerr
[REDACTED]
Pipersville, PA 18947

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shana Jalbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because this Bill would drastically increase the number of uninsured in PA.

Regards,
Shana Jalbert

Shana Jalbert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gregory Milbourne [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare reform

Please do NOT repeal the Affordable Care Act. As a psychologist, my family and my practice would be dramatically and negatively impacted by the Cassidy Act.

Thank you,
Greg Milbourne

--

Gregory B Milbourne, PsyD

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Media, PA 19063
[REDACTED]

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit." Aristotle

"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others." Cicero

"My experience is what I agree to attend to." – William James

Please note that email may not be confidential nor timely.

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sherry Shaeffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

This bill has yet to receive an analysis by the Congressional Budget Office. Previous CBO "scores" of the other Obamacare repeal bills found that they would lead to 20 million or more people lacking health insurance by 2026.

I am concerned that this bill will strip health care from millions of Americans. It seems to gut funding from Medicaid and allows insurance companies to put premiums on preexisting conditions. It is opposed by the American Medical Association, the American Nurses Association, the AARP, and dozens more consumer and patient groups along with many insurance companies. The Graham Cassidy bill would allow states to waive important consumer protections in the individual market. Under these waivers insurers could exclude crucial services such as maternity and mental health care from their plans, impose annual and lifetime limits, and dramatically raise deductibles and other out-of-pocket costs.

I urge you to say no to this damaging bill and protect our healthcare. Too many of our poor and sick families would suffer under this option.

Sincerely,

Sherry Shaeffer

Dresher, PA 19025

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ian Mundell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the record for hearing on Graham-Cassidy amendment

I am an immigrant who moved to this country 18 years ago to start the next chapter of my life with my American born wife. We had a few personal possessions and little else. I started working two weeks after I arrived in Pennsylvania, and for the last 18 years have supported my wife and, for the last 13 years, our daughter.

I have worked hard and benefited from a high standard of living. I've always paid social security and income taxes without demur, accepting that a civilized nation must commit to helping the poor and the disadvantaged in its population, and being grateful that I was able to contribute in this way.

The Graham-Cassidy amendment won't affect me personally, at least not immediately. I have a good job with excellent benefits, and am grateful for my good fortune. All members of my family are lucky to be in comparatively good health. But I recognize that this is as much due to luck as hard work, and especially the good fortune to be born free from debilitating conditions. Any one of us could see our health change overnight.

I see children at my daughter's school who have serious health conditions that require constant attention, or have gone through expensive life-saving surgeries, and I wonder if I could survive the financial impact of any one of these experiences. When my mother passed away after several months of illness, as I was flying back to my country of birth for her funeral I wondered how much the care she needed would have cost in Pennsylvania. If my wife or I needed similar care, could I look my daughter in the eye and tell her we might lose our house, her home, so that we could pay for medical bills? It is a terrible idea to contemplate.

The Graham-Cassidy amendment must be rejected for a number of reasons. It is financially irresponsible to pass this amendment without knowing the full cost. It risks leaving millions of Americans without insurance, in direct contradiction of an adamant promise from President Trump. The American Medical Association, along with many other expert bodies, has rejected this amendment, writing "the Graham-Cassidy Amendment violates the precept of 'first do no harm.'"

Many Republican senators have been quoted this week acknowledging they have grave problems with the amendment, but saying they will vote for it regardless because of campaign promises to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This is a terrible rationale and demonstrates a desire only to be able to say "we won an argument" instead of a commitment to taking the right action to protect constituents.

There are problems with the Affordable Care Act, but it has provided hope to millions of Americans who formerly lived with a dread of having to say "we can't afford the treatment you need" to a loved one with a debilitating affliction. I ask that, instead of rushing through a bad amendment, all of Congress and the Senate should commit to fixing the Affordable Care Act. It provides a strong basis for a compassionate society that has argued for too long about a health care system that languishes behind the vision and capacity of this great nation.

Respectfully

Ian Mundell

Bedminster, Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My daughter Rose and the G-C health care bill

September 22, 2017

Melissa A. Murphy
[REDACTED]
Wynnewood, PA 19096
[REDACTED]

RE: Graham-Cassidy "Health" Care Bill Harmful to My Daughter with a Pre-Existing Condition

Dear Senators:

Medicaid matters to my family. I have a wonderfully charming 6 year old daughter named Rose. She happens to have Williams Syndrome, a rare, spontaneous, genetic syndrome that causes a host of medical and learning challenges, including a serious heart defect.

We have private insurance; my husband and I both work (ironically, my husband works at a pediatric hospital and I am a career federal employee). Medicaid covers the significant portions of Rose's frequent heart echos that my insurance won't cover. It pays for her hearing aids that my insurance won't cover. It subsidizes a small portion of the 9 weekly therapies she receives.

Do we really live in an America where a little girl born with a bad heart and who is hard of hearing can't get cardiac care and hearing aids?

Please do not advance this bill. Hospitals, insurers, medical associations, disability advocacy groups, and parents of children with pre-existing conditions have all spoken out loudly against it. I know you can do better; my daughter deserves better.

Melissa Murphy
Wynnewood, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Bernett [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill is NOT a solution!

The Graham-Cassidy Bill simply cannot pass. If you don't know what it is like to pay to keep a person alive, you're fortunate -- but you need to trust the voices of those who do.

Saying "pre-existing conditions are covered" does not mean in the same way they are now -- this bill will allow premiums on those WITH pre-existing conditions to rise to nearly unreachable rates like saying "car gas for all!" and charging \$400 a gallon. Sure - you can have gas! It's there for everyone! But is it? No, it's not. It's there for the rich, the comfortable and the haves.

Had we not had access to decent insurance for both my daughter's type 1 diabetes diagnosis 25 yrs ago & my own breast cancer diagnosis 20 yrs ago, we would have exhausted our financial resources. A series of 10 Neupogen injections for me after each of 3 rounds of chemotherapy cost \$2000 in 1998, so we had to lay out \$6000 & wait months for reimbursement of a percentage of !!! The insulin that is literally LIFE SUPPORT for our daughter has risen in cost- tripling from \$231 a year to \$736 from 2002-2013 and continues to rise each year. It is unconscionable in 2017 that people living with diabetes are faced with choosing between food for their family OR sufficient medication to NOT incur debilitating disease complications. You NEVER know when you are going to be the one who needs costly medical care...and even if Congress grants YOU great health care, what about your neighbors, your relatives, your mailman???

We as a nation are only as good as how we take care of our most needy. Please. Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill is NOT the answer. I beg you to heed the warnings from many, many health care organizations who are ready and willing to listen to ideas, to EXPLAIN WHY this bill is flawed, and offer ideas for moving forward with a VIABLE alternative. Our great nation can surely find a way to thrive without putting lives at stake.

My daughter's future quite literally depends on this not passing. Yours -- or your child's - could one day as well. This is not a GAME, where your team needs a "win" to "look good".

Sincerely

Renee Bernett...Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Attachments: text_1506040461398.txt

Senate Finance Committee: My name is Debra Quinn and I reside in Carlisle, PA. In March of 2016 I had a stroke. Upon discharge from the hospital I was sent home. Shortly after my stroke I resigned my position with the state because of my health and immediately lost my health insurance. Thankfully I was able to get Healthcare through the Affordable Care Act, without which I would probably not be writing this. With all the medications, physical therapy and doctor's visits I would be bankrupt now. But because of the Affordable Care Act I am not. I can afford my prescriptions, see my physical therapist and my doctor, and now you want to take that away from me along with millions more, who are so much sicker than I am. So my question to all of you is why? Why do you want to destroy so many lives? You say pre-existing condition are covered but they are not. Oh you can get insurance, but the insurers can charge whatever they want, which means there will be no coverage, because no one will be able to afford it. Please don't do this. Don't take our healthcare away from us to be replaced by something that will kill 32 million of us. Is even one death worth it? Would you be able to look at your child, if you were on this insurance, (which YOU and your family won't have to be) knowing because of the pre-existing condition, you couldn't afford the cost, so your child is going to die? Would that life be worth repealing the Affordable Care Act, just so the Kochs will release their 400 million dollars? Is it worth a life just so you can say you repealed the Affordable Care Act? I guess so, because there will be a lot of deaths and their blood will be on your hands. How will you sleep then? Thank you, Debra Quinn.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jodi Hirsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE this horrible bill

Members of the U.S. Senate:

Once again, I beg of you: for the good of the country and those of us living in it, please vote against the horrible Graham-Cassidy bill. I am so tired of begging my elected representatives to spare my life and the lives of friends, loved ones, and fellow Americans. And yet, here we are. Doing it again. Enough of this, please. Go back to the bipartisan process of fixing the ACA in order to help, not hurt people. That's what you were elected to do. Country over party. Finally.

Jodi Hirsh
Pittsburgh, PA
15206

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Cassidy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

All opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill, but what do they know?

American Medical Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Physicians
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association
American College of Physicians
National Council for Behavioral Health
American Hospital Association
Federation of American Hospitals
Children's Hospital Association
Catholic Health Association of the United States
American Association of Medical Colleges
America's Essential Hospitals
American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living
America's Health Insurance Plans
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
ALS Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
Arthritis Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Family Voices
Juvenile Diabetes Research Funding
Lutheran Services in America
March of Dimes
National Health Council
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Diseases
Physician Assistant Education Association
Volunteers of America
WomenHeart
AARP
The Arc: For People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Consumers Union

David Cassidy
[REDACTED]
State College, PA 16801
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jo-Ann DeLibero [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:10 PM
To: gchcomments; info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Bad Bill

**GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov and CC:
info@pahealthaccess.org**

Subject:Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill
Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will destroy the lives of many hard working Americans and innocent children. Please do not support this proposal.

Pennsylvania Health

Jo-Ann DeLibero

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: heather vono [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC hearing

To whom it may concern:

It is our responsibility to yet again demonstrate why we are the greatest country in the world. The Graham Cassidy bill actually demonstrates what is wrong with politicians and is as anti American as some one can be. Instead of supporting facts and ensuring that all Americans can afford "reasonable" healthcare they are standing on principle instead of reasoning. "Reasonable" premiums for people that make \$30,000/yr not \$300,000/yr. 32million to lose coverage but PAC monies will be at an all time high. To say I am disappointed would be an understatement. Anyone that voted to support this bill is doing so to support their bank account and not their constituents. Anyone who voted to repeal should no longer be able to talk about any veterans issues. I beg you to vote no on repeal of ACA.

Heather vono
Aliquippa, pa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeff Roman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy

The bipartisan Medicaid Directors from all 50 states just issued this negative statement about Graham-Cassidy.

The American Medical Association is against it.

The AARP is against it.

The American people are against it by a wide margin.

This will make life worse for a lot of Americans - there is no way it can be passed.

Jeff Roman

[REDACTED]
Havertown, PA 19083

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Kalember [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

I am more than concerned. I am an educated constituent that understands the bill and believes giving states the right to deny pre-existing conditions is not what anyone wants. You were elected to facts for those in your state and by pushing it on to the states you are opening up a denial of benefits. This bill is horrible for America and horrible for Pennsylvania

Jennifer Kalember

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Barnes [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill - public comment

I firmly oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. This bill will do great harm to millions of Americans, including members of my family. It will lead to millions of people losing health insurance coverage. It will increase premiums generally, end the premium and cost-sharing subsidies that make it possible for low-income Americans to afford health insurance, and allow much higher premiums for older Americans. It will end the guarantee of coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. It will end the firm ban on annual and lifetime limits for health insurance. It will end the guarantee that important services like immunizations, prescriptions, maternity care, etc. be covered by health insurers.

In addition, this bill goes beyond repealing the ACA and makes a major assault on traditional Medicaid by reducing its funding and imposing caps on the program. This will seriously threaten health care for the poor, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

I urge Congress to reject this bill which will have dire consequences for real people – more Americans without health insurance and unable to afford health care, resulting in unnecessary illness, debilitation, and death.

Catherine Barnes
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia PA 19119

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deirdre Cosgrove [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

Of the potential impact on my fellow Americans with pre-existing conditions and the potential cuts to Medicare funding. I work at a community mental health non-profit in Delaware County, Pennsylvania called Child Guidance Resource Centers. I provide intensive, in-home family therapy for children who are at risk for out of home placements. All my clients have insurance through Medicare due to their mental health diagnoses. The mental health system in our country is already a fractured system, with many unable to access care they need. I am concerned that this bill will further damage this system and that people will lose coverage. I am also worried that pre existing conditions will not be covered. I personally know many individuals who would be unable to afford their healthcare costs without these protections. I think it is shameful and a moral failing if this bill were to be passed. Healthcare is a universal right, and managed care organizations should not be allowed to make billions in profit for their shareholders. Our elected officials need to remember that they serve to represent their constituents and must be certain that any bill will serve to benefit all americans.

Deirdre Cosgrove

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryle Blunt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because it is little more than a thinly veiled tax cut for the ultra wealthy on the backs of the middle class and poor. Those who claim that cutting massive amounts of funding from healthcare will somehow make things better are being fundamentally dishonest. I'm disgusted that this is even being discussed.

Fix the problems with the ACA that were caused by the amendments and the desire to sabotage it. No repeal is acceptable.

Cheryle Oshman Blunt
West Chester PA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Comer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for hearing

I want my statement entered for the upcoming hearing on Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

My daughter, at the age of 32, was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder. She attempted suicide as a result of this disease. She also has PTSD, anxiety disorder, and is unable to work. She depends on Medicaid to help pay for her prescription. She also now has a pre-existing condition, which this bill will probably eliminate. All Americans deserve good healthcare. This is a terrible bill that will not benefit Americans.

Donna Comer
Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Peters [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because
As we speak my dear husband sits in the chemo recliner in Pittsburgh. He is 59 year old battling his Hurricane Non Hodgkins Lymphoma. Preexisting conditions are People. No one can afford cancer. Helping your constituents with major medical issues is no different then helping survivors of hurricanes. We need the protections provided by the ACA. Illness should not be political. Vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Cancer doesn't discriminate, you could be next.

Terry Peters

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Persinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I have paid for my health care insurance for 60+ years and only rarely used it until recently. Now I am an elderly person with a pre-existing condition. Now, after paying my share for 60+ years Senator Graham thinks I should pay more than everyone else because I am sick and old. This is not fair.

Also, I have no faith in the dolts in the Pennsylvania state government to deal with my healthcare needs - they cannot even deal with the state budget.

Please DO NOT approve the Graham-Cassidy bill.

William Persinger
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Clair Oaks [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no!

On the latest health care bill, it is cruel and wrong! Vote no!

Clair Oaks
Swarthmore PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: daniel t george [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment - Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senators,

This bill does much harm and little good. It does away with Medicaid expansion, threatens the guarantee of coverage for essential health benefits, and forces people with preexisting conditions to be priced out of the health insurance market or not covered altogether. Also, it increases the likelihood that seniors will face what for them would be astronomical premiums, and allows states to refuse to provide payment assistance for low-income families. It doesn't deserve passage, and you should vote NO if it comes up for a vote.

Thank you.

Dan George
[REDACTED]
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Juliet Christopher [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate is wrong for the American people. Among other problems that it has, its fundamental problems are that the individual mandate would be gone, subsidies would be replaced by block grants, Medicaid expansion would be cut and Medicaid overall would be capped, and pre-existing conditions could once again affect insurance premiums. Rather than providing affordable health insurance options for Americans, this proposal ensures that those who are least able to afford health care are left without access to health care.

Juliet C.B. Christopher
Downingtown PA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Law [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because of the risk that millions will lose coverage. The mandates currently in place protect individuals and families from discrimination based on pre-existing conditions. Graham-Cassidy does not provide that protection - it allows for exceptions which open the door to this discrimination.

My husband suffered a serious stroke 6 years ago. He was forced to retire and we are still waiting for a decision about social security disability. His medical bills from the stroke and following health issues (heart attack, bypass surgery, heart failure) totaled nearly 2 million dollars. We had and still have employer-based health care insurance. He is now 65 and will need to obtain a medicare supplemental policy. Our carefully planned retirement, based on 35 years of professional employment by both of us, is seriously jeopardized.

The decision faced by the Senate involves tens of millions of Americans. Each Senator must consider these consequences. The CBO has not even scored this bill. No one really knows its economic and personal impact. You cannot make such a serious decision with so little information. Your decision should not be based on the donations you have received from lobbyists, or promises made during election time - you must consider the real consequences for all Americans.

If you believe Obamacare is flawed then fix it. Do not throw this away. Americans are watching and counting on the Senate to consider carefully their decisions.

Thank-you

Anne Law
Phoenixville PA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Stewart [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy Bill Comment

This Bill is our worst nightmare. There is absolutely no concern for American Citizens in need of health insurance. This will hurt MILLIONS of Americans.

The right thing to do is let the bipartisan team continue to prepare their Bill to stabilize the ACA. Then work in a bipartisan effort to fix the problems in the ACA. Every significant new legislation needs tweaking before it fully meets its intended outcome.

America will never be "great" until every citizen has affordable access to quality health care. You can build this with the ACA as your foundation.

Thank you,

Debra Stewart
[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19147

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Connie Hershey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy proposal

I am a 61 year old female who has a heart condition that will require surgery to replace my aortic valve. I also have a connective tissue disorder, thyroid disease, alopecia aerate, and arthritis. I am very worried about increasing healthcare costs for people in my age group and also about the possibility of reinstating annual and/or lifetime caps on coverage.

It makes no sense at all that people in my age group should have to pay more for health insurance because of our age or because of medical conditions that are out of our control. People in my age group are retiring and experiencing significant drops in income. For these reasons and many more, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy proposal, which will strip healthcare for millions of people and hurt many others as well.

PLEASE listen to the people you represent. I believe that Medicare for all is the way to go. Every other developed country has been able to provide healthcare for ALL of its citizens, there's no reason why the US can't do it as well. Healthcare costs in the US are out of control because health insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies have too much power, and that is what needs to change.

Thank you,
Connie L. Hershey
[REDACTED]
Manheim, PA 17545

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeff Lieberman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy is even worse than the BCRA. It guts protections for pre-existing conditions and is a death sentence for sick and vulnerable Americans. I urge you to reject this cruel, heartless bill and support bipartisan efforts to stabilize the ACA exchanges.

Jeff Lieberman
Newtown, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Diana [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it rolls back protections for people with pre-existing conditions, it does not earmark funding for the neediest among us, and it eliminates the individual mandate, which is necessary in order to make the marketplace work. Insurance companies are against it, and even your colleagues who claim to support it can't offer a coherent explanation for why except that it makes good on their promise to dismantle Obamacare.

Since the ACA came to be, I have saved over \$500 per month on my family's insurance, and we don't even get a subsidy. I know that \$6,000 per year is nothing compared to the tax breaks that some wealthy Americans stand to get if this bill goes through, but it really makes a difference to my family.

Please pursue a bipartisan solution to healthcare reform. Your constituents expect you to come up with something better, not to rubber stamp a last ditch effort without any meaningful hearings or time for public comment.

Sincerely,

Julie Diana
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Bradford [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am that chronically ill, on medicaid, person that everyone is so concerned costs money.

It's true, I do.

As a type 1 insulin dependent diabetic it is expensive (in this country) to stay alive. By the time I was 41 (20 years out of college) I'd spent over \$200,000 on premiums and basic care alone. (I was diagnosed as a child.)

I'd also, by that time, lived all over the country, boxed, kickboxed, raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for non-profits, worked for a Native American tribe, and been published.

PA Medicaid (MAWD) allowed me to hone my writing skills and transition back to full time work this past month.

Before the ACA I couldn't get private insurance at decent rates. When I did find a plan (at more than \$500/month) I was told it didn't cover maternity.

In another circumstance, I wanted to convert COBRA to private and was quoted an \$1,100 monthly premium.

The ACA is not perfect, but it leveled the playing field.

I understand if the finance committee doesn't particularly care if I can afford to live. I just wanted to point out that it's never been easy, or cheap, and, yet, I seem to have done some good in the world.

Of course, I don't own a house and my car is from 1992 but...well...that's the cost of having a chronic illness in this country. At least, it was until ACA and the ability to access decent (okay-ish) insurance through medicaid.

I'd appreciate it if you wouldn't allow insurance companies to gouge me again. Also, lay off medicaid.

Thanks,
Stephanie

(Feel free to call me, btw. Senators Casey and Toomey should have my number in their records.)

Stephanie Bradford
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanne Finegan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: not in support of this bill

Importance: High

Again, it is amazing how dysfunctional Washington continues to be. Work together, follow the rules, wait for the CBO to provide their report and actually support the American people to have healthcare coverage that makes sense.

I am not in support of this bill and work every day with individuals with brain injury that rely on appropriate funding that supports their care in home and community settings. Caps on the Medicaid program for people who need it, changes to the essential health benefits and creating further loop holes for pre-existing condition coverage is not the way to fix our current healthcare system.

Work together to find a solution that makes sense, this is NOT it!!

Joanne Finegan, MSA, CTRS, FDRT
CEO and President of ReMed, CEO of US Community Behavioral

[REDACTED]
Paoli, PA 19301
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



The ReMedian Way

Fundamental 3: Walk in the Shoes

Every individual is unique, with different qualities and different goals. Understand their world. Know their challenges and frustrations. Interact in a way that honors their self-worth and respects their value as unique individuals. Demonstrate kindness, compassion and patience. Everyone wants a connection and wants to laugh.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Saxton [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will take healthcare away from over 30 million of our most vulnerable citizens.. the sick, the young, the elderly, the disenfranchised, the intellectually and developmentally disabled, the physically challenged, the mentally challenged... our fellow citizens of the USA must be protected. We are counting on you. Please don't let us down! Fight this bill with all you've got! Can you imagine taking away medicine from a sick child, an elderly man who served in WWII, a young veteran who served in Iraq? Think of the PEOPLE!!!! The states can't manage this... we need single payer healthcare now! Thank you. Ann Saxton, Kingston, PA

Ann Saxton

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Norman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern,

The electorate has been clear: we do not want this or any other bill that will roll back health coverage. Healthcare is a human right. It's also in the interests of national security and economic prosperity. I want to register my strong opposition to Graham Cassidy.

Thank you.

Dr. Marie Norman
Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Maxfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because

....

- this bill will mean millions will be no longer be able to afford health coverage
- state health plans can mean that those with pre-existing conditions will no longer be covered adequately
- without a national mandate, we will not have health insurance costs spread out over everyone including the young and healthy
- the ACA needs careful improvements, not repeal

Thank you.

Alice Maxfield
Southampton, PA 18966

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harriet Marritz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Vote No on Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to express grave concerns about the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would gut Medicaid, thereby denying access to health care for millions of our most vulnerable citizens. It eliminates important consumer protections, especially for women and the millions of us with pre-existing conditions. It also guts Planned Parenthood's ability to provide valuable health care services to millions of women and men.

It is a heartless bill. Those who support it do NOT reflect the values of hard-working and patriotic Americans who support a true democracy.

Harriet Marritz
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: info@pahealthaccess.org

Dear Senators

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will strip billions of federal dollars to states in the guise of "flexibility". This bill will cause harm to Pennsylvanians and Americans by decreasing subsidies for insurance, decreasing funding for Medicaid for poor children, pregnant women, children and adults with disabilities and seniors. My state of Pennsylvania currently has a \$2.2 billion budget deficit that our legislators have not been able to fill. The Graham-Cassidy bill would cut an estimated \$850 million by 2026 in health care funding to Pennsylvania. This bill is no better than the prior bills and the CBO estimated the prior bills would cause 32 million Americans to lose coverage and lead individual insurance markets to collapse. This is another bad bill that is bad for our country.

I in no way support the Graham-Cassidy bill and urge the Senate to NOT pass it.

Thank you.

Janice Meinert

[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh PA 15205
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula H. Baxter, [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Personal impact of loosing Affordable Quality Care

Dear members of Congress,

I ask to please listen to the many stories of so many Americans who have had their lives saved by having access to Affordable Quality Healthcare. We are real, we are depending on you, and we do vote.

I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that requires regular testing through blood work to prevent my thyroid gland from putting me into anaphylaxis. I have come close to dying a few times in the recent years, and without quality care I could afford, and the release of PUNISHMENT due to PRE EXISTING CONDITIONS, I was able to survive the attacks and receive care to keep me stable.

My life is in your hands, as are so many. I deserve to have quality care that protects me from elevated premiums as punishment for having a disease. It is time for you to stop pandering to those special interest groups who line your pockets, and remember the citizens of the USA who pay your salary and elect you to represent them.

I am completely disgusted that the fight to save my life is constant, and the Republican Party doesn't give a damn.

Paula H. Baxter
West Chester, PA 19380-4671
Senator Patrick Toomey
Senator Robert Casey
Representative Ryan Costello

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Torregrossa [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will hurt all Pennsylvanians

I urge your committee to recognize the terrible harm that the Graham-Cassidy bill will do. PA has many elderly people who are dually eligible and rely on Medicaid for supplemental coverage and for long-term services and supports. The decrease in federal funding will mean PA cannot help them with their health care needs. It will also destabilize the insurance market place, making all premiums increase. Waivers will lead to unaffordable health care for people with chronic conditions, poor health status, women of child-bearing age and older Pennsylvanians. Do not let this bill go forward.

Ann S. Torregrossa
[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: NANCY GERBER [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Bill

Hello!

I am writing to urge you please to not approve the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. This bill will put thousands of people's healthcare insurance coverage and consequently their health and well being at stake. I myself am getting older and will be reliant upon Medicare in the coming years. People such as myself are depending upon these existing safety nets for our futures. I do not understand why Republicans are so cold and heartless about the issue of healthcare. Please look deep into your soul and face the truth about the consequences of your actions for so many people in this country. We depend upon you for our future welfare.

Thank you.

Nancy Gerber, Ph.D

[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Message for the record - health care

Dear committee members,

I write to request that you reject the Graham Cassidy bill. My state, Pennsylvania, elected to expand Medicare and therefore stands to lose significant funds if the bill is passed. My family will be negatively affected by such change.

My son who is currently a college student remains on my employer's health insurance. He has a heart condition which, I fear, will make insurance inaccessible to him should the bill pass.

I urge you to keep in mind the real health and well being of your fellow citizens, which matter more than keeping empty campaign promises.

Sincerely,

Sigal Ben-Porath

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanne Stewart [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA - Do not repeal

I am against the Graham Cassidy bill. I do not want it to pass because 32 million people will be hurt by it. Veterans, elderly citizens who depend on Medicaid will be harmed. Many will die because they can't afford coverage.

Vote no.

Jeanne Stewart
[REDACTED]
Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Irons [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 2:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Care

The phrase “pre-existing conditions” didn’t always have a direct meaning for me. I was glad the Affordable Care Act helped people who had to worry about them, but my family didn’t yet have a lot of physical health issues. Then in January 2016 my 18-year-old son was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. We entered a whole new world of medication, treatment, appointments, and health complications, and it wasn’t lost on me that he was just a few years away from having to come off our insurance plan. He can live a long life if he takes care of himself and takes insulin, but what if he can’t afford the insulin and what happens when he starts dealing with the other complications of his disease? Giving insurance companies the right to say, “Sorry you’re losing your eyesight, but we don’t have to pay for it” is beyond cruel, especially when it sounds like you’re only doing it to win elections (not my words – talk to Sen. Grassley). That you callously give back to insurance companies the right to block care for my son because his diabetes diagnosis came on someone else’s watch is something I can’t even comprehend. Why would you do that?

I didn’t even get to the fact that the same son who now has to manage diabetes also has severe ADHD, Anxiety Disorder and a PTSD diagnosis. Medication and counseling help, but he still has difficulty keeping jobs for long periods of time. And just like it is for many people, when mental health issues impact long-term employment abilities, they also impact the ability to stay consistently on an employer-based health care plan. In Eddie’s case, we’re talking about a kid who spent his first four years bouncing around from foster home to foster home and has spent the rest of his years so far fighting to overcome everything that happened to him back then. He found a family who would fight for him, but does he have to learn the hard way that his government won’t?

I’m really happy for you if you and your kids don’t have to worry about these kind of issues, but please tell me you aren’t jaded enough to believe politics are more important than looking out for the people who do. You don’t have to be Mr. Smith, but for God’s sake, you don’t have to be Mr. Potter, either.

Please care.

Sincerely,
Amy Irons
Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Bhoj [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because every major organization has shown it will hurt millions and lead to the preventable death of countless Americans. As a pediatrician I have seen the devastation that poor health care access does to families, especially the most vulnerable. We all have a responsibility to make informed choices that benefit our country. Supporting this bill would be ignorant at best, and malicious at its worst. Please do better, millions of lives are at stake.

Elizabeth Bhoj, MD PhD
Philadelphia, PA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy Vote No

From: [REDACTED]
To: GCcomments@finance.senate.gov
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:22:45 AM
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Vote No

Graham-Cassidy "Healthcare" Bill will have grave consequences to the American people. Eliminating Medicaid hurts seniors and those gravely ill, limiting or completely eliminating coverage for pre-existing conditions will have horrendous effect on everyone (who doesn't have some condition?), and capping lifetime coverage. All these will result in death to many Americans.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER THAN WHAT YOU ARE PROPOSING!! YOU HAVE A FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT US!! (NOT TO CAUSE HARM)

VOTE "NO" ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY!!!

We will remember your action!

Ruth C. Johnson
[REDACTED]
Scottsdale PA 15683
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jillian Ivey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because as a woman, I'm damned if I do and damned if I don't. You are both cutting funding to Planned Parenthood, which provides essential health services to women (and men!) who cannot otherwise afford medical care, and also telling women that a previous pregnancy is a pre-existing condition, raising their premiums to as much as \$17,000 just for having a child (when you are effectively taking away their options *not* to do so).

Senators, I am a white woman in my mid-30s. I have a graduate degree, and I've worked for over ten years in my field. But this year, my husband (also a professional in his mid-30s with a graduate degree) and I experienced the double-whammy of both losing our jobs through no fault of our own. When our COBRA coverage runs out, the Affordable Care Act will provide our only hope at coverage if neither of us has yet found full-time employment (or even if we have, because you're also taking away the employer mandate). With your plan, we would be forced to choose between paying our mortgage and paying for healthcare, and our hopes of starting a family once we reach greater financial stability will be dashed.

Sincerely,
Jillian Ivey
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Pastan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA comments--Please don't repeal!

I'm writing to let my representatives know how strongly I feel that the Affordable Care Act--while not perfect--is crucial to the health of Americans, especially here in Pennsylvania.

Please do not vote to repeal it.

The latest bill that would "replace" Obamacare would mean billions less for covering the recently insured, and those with low incomes, in my state of Pennsylvania as well as across the country. The block grants it would offer states come with minimal protections for sick people, and with no requirement that the state offer funding. It's clear how badly middle class and poor Pennsylvanians would suffer under such a law.

It's notable how many health care providers, insurers, and governors of all parties have condemned this new bill.

Please keep the ACA, for our health and our children's health!

Rachel Pastan
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Oliver Cannady [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will reduce the affordability and availability of health insurance coverage for Americans. Please vote no if a vote is taken!

Oliver Cannady
Limerick, PA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karlin Lamberto [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please say NO to Graham-Cassidy

I beg you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. This proposed bill will kick Americans off insurance, raise premiums and reduce benefits for those that manage to keep their insurance.

Please continue your fight for the American people and say no to this inhumane bill. For America to be truly great we need to insure ALL citizens and save families from facing financial ruin should they become ill.

Thank you for your hard work and please vote NO!

Karlin Lamberto
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

The currently proposed healthcare bill is a death warrent for millions.
As real patriotic Americans who care for one another, everyone should stand firmly against it. It is our own government working against the people. Tthis bill must not pass.
Please, everyone on this committee must vote against it.

Karen Anderson
Loysville, PA 17047

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Voet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please vote no on Graham Cassidy Plan

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to ask you to vote no on the Graham Cassidy Plan and to preserve all protection and funding currently within the ACA. Graham Cassidy would cause millions of Americans to lose healthcare and would allow states to remove protections surrounding pre existing conditions and quality of benefits. Ultimately graham Cassidy will result in significant increased death and suffering for people across the country. Please do not support it.

Sincerely
Wendy voet

[REDACTED]
Swarthmore Pa 19081

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Fanconi [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Cassidy Graham Bill

Negative impact of Cassidy Graham on Pennsylvanians:

Dear Senators, i live in Pennsylvania with my husband and 5 grandchildren. We strongly oppose the Cassidy-Graham bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act and Eli image the Medicaid program. Many Pennsylvanians depend on our current health care system. The following negative impacts will be felt by your constituents. Please do not pass this bill if you care at all about the quality of life for your fellow Americans.

The Graham-Cassidy Act:

1. **Has large funding cuts for most states, including Pennsylvania, which will lead to large**

increases in the uninsured. The bill would replace federal Medicaid funding with “Market-Based Health Care” block grants that would generally shift federal funds away from states that have expanded Medicaid coverage to state where Republican leaders refused to expand coverage, while providing less federal funds under the current federal spending for Marketplace and Medicaid expansion coverage.

- Between 2020-2026 the block grant would provide states with \$81.6 billion less in federal funds. The funding would expire in 2027.
- **During that 6-year period PA would receive \$7 billion less in federal funding.**
- There is no state matching fund requirement for these federal funds, so the state

legislature could decide to dramatically cut state funding for health care

coverage for lower-income uninsured.

- Pennsylvania’s uninsured rate will return to double-digit percentage levels.

2. The bill **allows states great flexibility with the use of the block grant funds**, including the ability to repurpose federal dollars away from coverage to payments to providers or other health care related purposes. State legislatures will face pressure to use funds to address state budget issues.
3. The bill will eliminate the Marketplaces, the premium tax credits and cost-sharing protection, the individual and large employer mandate and **will lead to destabilization of the insurance market, including large premium increases.** This marketplace “chaos” and instability will impact coverage and cost for everyone with commercial health insurance.
4. Although, requiring guarantee issue, the bill **allows states to waive other important consumer protections under the ACA**, including:
- The essential health benefits
 - Allow insurers to vary premiums based on age, pre-existing conditions, health

status, for prenatal care and delivery, or carve out certain treatments or

coverage.

- Medical loss requirements, so that more premium can go to profit and administration, not health care.

5. **Is being put to a vote without a full CBO score**, so we don't know what this will do to the deficit, loss of coverage or increased premium impact or without the usual congressional legislative process or any attempts at bipartisanship.
6. **Is being pursued despite the strong opposition** of AARP, the health insurance industry, the AMA, American Cancer Society and other key stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Carol Fanconi

[REDACTED]

Media, Pa 19063

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Zimmerman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is Cruel

The GOP's commitment to repealing Obamacare in one way or another is blinding politicians to the cruelty of this plan. I understand they feel they made campaign promises regarding healthcare, but wise people learn from their mistakes. They should have the moral courage to tell their constituents they've come to realize the ACA is in the best interest of the American people and must stand, at least until a concrete, well-thought-out, well-researched alternative arises.

One of the most impressive pieces of information about this issue has been the study that shows that while a lot of voters are hostile to Obamacare, they are in favor of the ACA. Many of the people to whom GOP officials made promises did not even understand what Obamacare is.

It is incumbent on our elected representatives to know more than the average voter and to make informed choices. It is incumbent on our elected representatives, when faced with a choice between political expediency and morality, to choose morality. It is wrong to strip millions of Americans of their health care. Period.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am grateful you've made available this opportunity for comments from the public.

Sincerely,
Virginia Zimmerman
Lewisburg, PA 17837

--
Dr. Virginia Zimmerman
Professor of English
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837

[REDACTED]

"...for the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs" (George Eliot, *Middlemarch*).

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nick Sones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Comments Public Record

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Nicholas Sones I reside in a small rural town in Pennsylvania. I will admit I thought like many we had once and for all defeated TrumpCare. That was not the case. In my state alone 1,066,000 hardworking Pennsylvanians will lose their healthcare if Graham Cassidy passes. More importantly than these folks being Pennsylvanians they are Americans. One would think a political party that cares about fiscal responsibility could wait for a full Congressional Budget Office Score, but that sadly is not the case. It appears that if Graham Cassidy is passed some 30 Million Americans will lose their health insurance. If one can't be persuaded by the numbers let me tell the members of this distinguished committee how the Affordable Care Act directly impacts my life and the life story that I am still writing every day.

We must go back to 1992, the bad old days when people were not protected by the Affordable Care Act. That is what Graham Cassidy does; it returns America to a time before the Affordable Care Act. I was born on January 12, of 1992, and I like so many Americans have pre-existing condition. I had numerous open heart surgeries. The exact medical diagnosis was Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. In English, in case Secretary Price isn't available at this time, I was born with only half of a heart. One would hope that with a few surgeries this would be fixed. It wasn't, and when I was in first grade I coded while in gym class. I was rushed to Geisinger Hospital via a life flight. While there I had a pacemaker and defibrillator placed; mind you I was in first grade. The journey didn't end there. A few years later when I had to have a valve fixed, they placed a ring around it. Oh and I forgot to mention all the medications that I was on during all the time in between. A lot of medications. There was a blood thinner called Coumadin, Lasix a diuretic, and many, many more. Most would think medication, well anyone can live with taking medication that is true. Coumadin, for those who don't know makes you bleed. A scrape here and there, well it can really ruin an entire day. After the valve was fixed one would hope this was the end of surgeries and again I can live with taking medicine after medicine. I was in middle school at this time. Some of things you truly don't want to remember, but you must for it makes you who you are, it gives you fight. It gives you spirit. It gives you the will to continue, to keep moving forward. In high school, I never really knew what I would do when I went off to college. Luckily, I took a class that changed my perspective in so many ways, it was also the same year President Obama was running for President of these United States. Before this time, I was not interested in politics, but then I woke up to the inequities in America and around the world. Throughout this time, I had pacemakers and defibrillators replaced along the journey, all while never showing any signs of giving up or turning back. Seriously Senators if you want to see fighters look at the children who live with chronic illnesses these kids are fighters and it's what every one of them will keep doing. Eventually along the way the organ, my organ, my heart, got too tired; it got too weak. My back, oh wow you old men who can walk without having back pain I envy those folks. Which leads me to another medical issue that must be discussed. This one is perhaps more terrifying than Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, more terrorizing even. This would be a rare disease known as Protein Losing Enteropathy (PLE, for Dr. Price). What this is, its protein that is lost from the gastrointestinal tract. In healthy people protein gets re-absorbed, in those with PLE it does not. The medication that I at the time was taking was Entocort, before this it was Prednisone. Both have their drawbacks which is why I envy those without any back problems. My back is permanently broken. When it was first diagnosed many doctors were perplexed that I was walking. I still am walking, and I strive to walk forward every single day. Well that is what would soon happen. I would continue to walk forward, but eventually as I noted above the heart got too weak.

I was listed on a heart transplant list in 2012, and I would wait two years. While two years may seem like an eternity to some, I didn't really notice it. Maybe in part because having a chronic illness all your live you figure nothing can stop you; nothing can stop us. Well Graham Cassidy can. The year is now 2014, and I am a college student and I worked Obama's reelection as well as several other campaigns, including my governors Tom Wolf campaign (perhaps you folks have heard of him). I attended his rally right after the primary. They called on September 23, 2014 in the early, early morning. That will be Saturday, as I am writing this it is Thursday night. The hearing will occur exactly two days after the three years.

Now receiving that phone call was easy. It was the easy part overall when looking at the whole picture. The day at the hospital I remember vividly before being knocked out. One of the last things I remember is being asked if I wanted a wheelchair to be wheeled into the Operating Room, I truly do hope that cold September morning will be the last time I'm ever in an operating room. I declined the wheel chair, and I walked into that operating room. I laid down on the bed and they placed IV's, and I went to sleep. I had delusions here and there because I was out for an entire day. The organ never got there until night time. I truly cannot fathom what it would have been like to have been awake during those hours. I can't imagine what it was like for my family. You'd think placing the organ was the easy part. The procedure took a very long time. I went in having ideas of them sewing my chest back up and walking out of the hospital shortly thereafter, but oh how I was wrong. I'm not sure how or even what tools surgeon's use to cut open and break ribs and rib cages. I'm sure Dr. Price may know he may have had to do a few times as well. Before the procedure I was on medication to control my blood pressure, and this would later become a problem. After the heart transplant, one must take several medications, one is Cellcept, which

goes for a pretty little penny. Without insurance, without the protections in the Affordable Care Act, it costs upwards of \$1,000 dollars. The other medication which is also an anti-rejection medication (that is what these are known as so your own body doesn't kill the organ). That medication is Prograf, and it costs over \$500 dollars for 30-day supply. Bactrim, an antibiotic which ensures that my own body wouldn't kill the new heart which someone had to die in order for me to receive. Something I will have to live with for the rest of my life. Does anyone on this committee know that feeling? Raise your hands if so. One of the other medications I was taking was Prednisone to help ensure the PLE would not return. It can return, and luckily, I have been lucky. But it can return at any time, and I fear for that day when I have to take medication that weakens my spine to the point that I may never be able to walk. So, after the procedure the recovery was long and hard, but again that fighting spirit or maybe I should use the word Chance, that Fighting Chance that I was given and others weren't.

Shortly after the procedure I had two seizures. Now I had a heart transplant and a broken spine and so many other medical procedures but none of them compared to the pain one feels after having a seizure. They are something that no one should ever have to feel. The entire body aches after such an episode. They were back to back, and doctors were unsure the cause and perhaps there is some debate still over the issue. When a seizure occurs, one loses their right to drive for at least six months. I was already looking at about 4 months since the transplant, what was I going to do now that it was six months. Some of the doctors, my cardiology team in particular, a group of talented men and women at the University Pittsburgh Medical Center thought it was my blood pressure, which I now take a different medication for, Losartan. I saw a neurologist and he was thinking that it could have been something else. I would later go on to see a different neurologist so I could be released and could have the freedom to drive again.

Eventually I would be discharged, and we will have to take a minute to note this it was about a few weeks before I could vote for the next Governor of Pennsylvania. He had called, the next Governor of Pennsylvania had called. The Mayor of Pittsburgh a very fine man had visited me in the hospital I ended up living in Pittsburgh during the summer to do an internship with him. While there in Pittsburgh I grew to love that city. I grew to love hockey and football. The year is 2017, so many Americans thought the issues of the Affordable Care Act were over, settled policy. I am more and more grateful that President Barack Obama came along and gave this nation a shining flicker of light, and that light still shines. I and so many Americans still appreciate the legacy of Barack Obama because the facts are clear the Affordable Care Act Works, and its working every single day. I thank President Obama and Vice President Biden and all the other members of Congress who voted to give me and my Fellow Americans a Fighting Chance, because We Will fight. I've fought like my life depended on it before and that's what I'm doing now because without the Affordable Care Act I and so many Americans will be left without their lives, and without a Fighting Chance.

The medications I am on are not cheap they aren't medications one can live without. It is a matter of life and death. Remember the year 1992, add 2017. I am 25 years old, and I am living a life I never imagined. Do you know what it's like to run for the first time in your life? Do any of you? Does my Senator Pat Toomey? Can he or any of you look me in the eyes and tell me I don't deserve healthcare? But somehow a group of old guys deserve Viagra, on the taxpayers' dime? I pay taxes. I work. Is it really too much to ask that myself and my Fellow Americans have access to healthcare? We aren't seeking a handout, we are seeking a Fighting Chance.

So, I end this letter with the following, if it is too much a burden to give us The American People a Fighting Chance then please do the America I know and love a favor and Resign.

Thank you,

Nicholas A. Sones
Shippensburg Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Prindle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Regarding Graham-Cassidy, no, no, no.

We have plenty of money in this country to provide decent health care for folks who need it. Would you folks please figure out how to do that. Graham-Cassidy isn't it.

--

Nancy Prindle
[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gianna Karapelou [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop the ACA repeal

I live in Media, Pennsylvania, and I am opposed to the current plan to repeal the ACA. The bill has not gone through usual channels and is not supported by many organizations related to the healthcare industry. It will wreak havoc on our premiums too - which really concerns me. We already pay \$1,100 per month for our family.

Please STOP the repeal effort.

Thank you,

Gianna Karapelou
Media, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andy Rieger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: please reject Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to request that the Graham-Cassidy bill not be passed in committee. The bill will dramatically reduce coverage for low and middle-class citizen and will quite likely result in reduced coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. In addition, by pegging funding increases below the rate of medical expense growth, this plan will dramatically reduce funding and coverage over the next 10 years.

Aside from the negative impacts of funding, we are asking too much of the states too quickly. They will be expected to create an entire healthcare infrastructure and design an entire health insurance system in less than two years. There is no reason to expect that this will go well, or that states can afford to fund all of this work, as it is not funded in the bill.

While the ACA has its issues, there are significant cost savings in building the health insurance infrastructure at the federal level.

I urge you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Regards,

Andrew Rieger

[REDACTED]
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teri Lamm [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

I stand with the long list of healthcare organizations who know that this legislation would wreak havoc with our already unwieldy and unfair healthcare system. I stand with the parents who have children with disabilities, with the children whose aging parents need extensive care, with those mowed down by the opioid crisis, with every American who pays too much for health insurance now and, like me and my hard working family, can't imagine another year where our costs go up or our coverage protections go down.

STOP this bill. Unscored by the CBO and unwanted by the vast majority of the citizens of this nation. Move forward with universal healthcare for all Americans. Start by looking at other great nations that have figured it out. Are they so much smarter than we are? Richer? Do they elect better politicians? Are their citizens more worthy? Why can't we, and YOU, figure it out?

Thank you for your time.
Vote NO on Graham- Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Teri Lamm
Swarthmore, PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Duff [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

I would like to voice my opposition to the lastest Graham Cassidy version of Health care reform. Please carefully review the statements by All Medicare Directors, the CBO, Healthcare Care professional organizations and even the insurance industry.

Surely they understand the intricacies of the heath care system better than I, but I too have an educated opinion. You see, my 9 year old is on the Autism Spectrum. Your first response may be that this is all too common. Yes, it is. But there is now a generation of young children on the Spectrum, who (like it or not) will grow up to be the leaders, professionals, workers, and parents of our country. As a parent, my first responsibility is to my son, as an American, my responsibility is to my country.

My son depends on Medical Assistance, wrap around services, behavior health services, occupational and Theraputic therapies, and developmental pediactrics. We use these services to help him learn the skills and behaviors that will allow him to succeed independently as an roundness adult. Without Medical Assistance and it's services, there is no chance for this child to become an independent adult. I am certain I am not alone in this situation. 1 in 60 AMERICAN CHILDREN present Spectrum disorders and are diagnosed.

Please do NOT allow this bill to move forward, it is bad for my son, bad for Americans and bad for our CHILDREN.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Respectfully,
Paula M.Duffield
Jenkintown, PA, USA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Glenna Harkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will deny healthcare coverage to millions of people, especially the poorest and most vulnerable among us. It will cost my home state of Pennsylvania upwards of 6 billion dollars. And it's being opposed and condemned by every major healthcare advocacy group in the country. It's a bad bill that will hurt Americans. VOTE NO!

Glenna Harkins

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TD Bradley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

What is wrong with you?!?! How many times do the people of this country have to tell you?!?! Save the ACA, fix the quirk YOU are responsible for.

DO
YOUR
JOB!

TD Bradley
Drexel Hill PA 19026

Sent from my iPhone
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce McKillip [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy might save some money. ACA SAVES LIVES!

Hello –

I am a born US citizen currently residing in Easton PA, married and father of two. College graduate, white collar technician in a media industry. First voted in 1976 and have not missed a national or state election since.

In 2013, as a result of the Great Recession, I lost my job of 14 years. My family could no longer keep up mortgage payments and we were forced to ride out the foreclosure process in our home as long as we could. After about four months my severance salary and benefits ran out, and we lived as well as we could on my unemployment benefits and what my wife and I could earn from odd jobs while my full-time job search continued. We could not in our wildest dreams have afforded COBRA.

Shortly after my 9-year-old daughter started fourth grade the following year, a long-chronic psychiatric condition took a sudden and dramatic turn for the worse, and she suffered a psychotic episode while at school. She was immediately sent to an emergency room with orders that we place her in psychiatric care until she was declared stable by a doctor, only at which time would she be allowed to return to school.

Fortunately the ACA had gone into effect shortly after my coverage had run out and I had registered during the first week; we lived in New Jersey at the time and so because of our low income we qualified for the extended Medicaid program. In addition to fully covering our regular medical costs — with access to a fine selection of providers, and no co-pays or deductibles (which we could not have managed to pay) — my daughter received the care she needed at some very fine institutions, and within a few months, with regular medication and at-home counseling (also covered by Medicaid) she was stable, happy, and able to return to school.

Since then I have finally found a full-time job (paying much less than my previous one, naturally), and have employee health insurance for my family — of course it requires us to pay thousands per year out of pocket, which Medicaid did not — but it covers pre-existing conditions, so my daughter will be all right. (Until, God forbid, I get laid off again. Can you promise an economy where that won't happen?) My family and I will always be grateful for President Obama and the Affordable Care Act — I can't bear to imagine what would have become of Katie without it.

I don't think we are an unusual family. We live in a time where this can happen to anyone. And that is why America needs the coverage provided under the Affordable Care Act. It's not perfect — it was a compromise to begin with — and certainly now that it's been working quite well for millions of Americans for several years, legislators who have the well-being of their constituents at heart might find ways to improve it.

But to simply, rashly undo the ACA at a stroke, in a headlong rush under cover of darkness and with no serious plans for a workable replacement, out of a perceived political need to fulfill an expedient promise to an extreme fringe of low-information voters who will not be satisfied until all traces of the Obama administration are erased — at whatever cost to American families, American lives? This would be heartless, a crime against humanity.

Some Republicans argue that expunging the ACA will remove a "bridge" to the one thing they fear most — more than economic collapse, catastrophic climate change, or global war — a single-payer healthcare system,

like every other industrialized democratic nation on earth has had for years. But if Graham-Cassidy were to become law, I'll tell you what will happen: The Democratic Party will seize on the issue and adopt single-payer as their keynote campaign issue. The millions of American voters who have lost access to healthcare — those who have not by then died of treatable conditions — will fall in behind them. And by 2020 the GOP will be a fringe party, while their worst nightmare becomes a reality.

Perhaps in the long run that would be best, but I prefer to avoid the widespread human misery that would entail. So I am asking you to think, if not of your constituents' lives, then at least of your own careers, and do the right thing, the sensible thing, and reject this odious, cynical plan.

We will be watching.

Thank you,
Bruce R. McKillip

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce McKillip [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Graham-Cassidy might save some money. ACA SAVES LIVES!
Attachments: Katie.jpg

Hello –

[Sending this again because I thought you might appreciate the attachment.]

I am a born US citizen currently residing in Easton PA, married and father of two. College graduate, white collar technician in a media industry. First voted in 1976 and have not missed a national or state election since.

In 2013, as a result of the Great Recession, I lost my job of 14 years. My family could no longer keep up mortgage payments and we were forced to ride out the foreclosure process in our home as long as we could. After about four months my severance salary and benefits ran out, and we lived as well as we could on my unemployment benefits and what my wife and I could earn from odd jobs while my full-time job search continued. We could not in our wildest dreams have afforded COBRA.

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But to simply, rashly undo the ACA at a stroke, in a headlong rush under cover of darkness and with no serious plans for a workable replacement, out of a perceived political need to fulfill an expedient promise to an extreme fringe of low-information voters who will not be satisfied until all traces of the Obama administration are erased — at whatever cost to American families, American lives? This would be heartless, a crime against humanity.

Some Republicans argue that expunging the ACA will remove a "bridge" to the one thing they fear most — more than economic collapse, catastrophic climate change, or global war — a single-payer healthcare system, like every other industrialized democratic nation on earth has had for years. But if Graham-Cassidy were to become law, I'll tell you what will happen: The Democratic Party will seize on the issue and adopt single-payer as their keynote campaign issue. The millions of American voters who have lost access to healthcare — those who have not by then died of treatable conditions — will fall in behind them. And by 2020 the GOP will be a fringe party, while their worst nightmare becomes a reality.

Perhaps in the long run that would be best, but I prefer to avoid the widespread human misery that would entail. So I am asking you to think, if not of your constituents' lives, then at least of your own careers, and do the right thing, the sensible thing, and reject this odious, cynical plan.

We will be watching.

Thank you,

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marlee Stefanelli [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

As an American citizen, I am disheartened and outraged by the resurgence of the GOP plan to take healthcare away from an estimated 32 million Americans. In PA alone the Center for American Progress estimates that 1.066 million Pennsylvanians would lose coverage under the Graham-Cassidy plan. As a small business owner in NEPA, my family purchases insurance from the marketplace and because my 5-year-old son has type 1 diabetes he receives secondary insurance benefits through Medicaid. This plan will destabilize the individual insurance marketplace and cause skyrocketing premiums particularly for those with pre-existing conditions. In addition it places caps on Medicaid funding to children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. By 2036, children would be cut by 31%. These are our neighbors, our grandparents, our children, and our loved ones with disabilities. How can we jeopardize the financial and medical stability of our working class to provide tax breaks to the most wealthy? Graham-Cassidy fundamentally damages our healthcare safety net while significantly impacting 1/6 of our economy and the GOP is rushing this bill through to beat a deadline for political gain. Americans' lives are on the line and this bill may pass with no debate, only one hearing, and not a full CBO score. Where has human compassion gone?

Marlee Stefanelli

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zachary Lesser [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 12:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy Bill

- Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
- Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017
- Full Name: Zachary Lesser
- Address: 922 s 10th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147

Dear Senators,

Please do not support this bill. This bill will strip insurance from about 30 million people. Let that sink in for a minute. It will devastate communities, take us back to the days of medical bankruptcies, being frozen into a job you don't want, being unable to start a new business for fear of getting sick.

No one wants this bill; only 24% of Americans support it. Why would you pass a bill that has near-universal opposition among the American people? Even Republican voters oppose this bill, as does every major insurance industry group, health care group, and medical association.

This bill was hastily written, with no bipartisan input, no hearings, not even a true CBO score available. It is madness to attempt to re-order a huge chunk of American society in this way.

Stop, pause, and think. Put country above party.

Sincerely,
Zachary Lesser

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: ani.harry@verizon.net
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Senators,

I am writing to demand that you vote AGAINST Graham Cassidy. The American people have repeatedly opposed any effort to "repeal and replace" the ACA. All 50 Medicaid Directors, even Republican Governors are opposed to Graham Cassidy.

It's time for this madness to stop. Fix ACA, dont repeal it. Stop being the lapdogs of the Koch Bros, have some ethical standards and compassion for a change.

Ani Diakatos
Wallingford, Pennsylvania

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson

Re: Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal, Monday, September 25, 2018

As the father of an individual with type one diabetes, and having been actively involved in a variety of healthcare related scenarios in my professional life, it is my believe that the current draft of the bill is inappropriate for consideration and advancement. The considerations with regard to pre-existing conditions need to be modified. Pre-existing conditions waivers should be absolute. There should be no ability whatsoever for any state to delete or limit them. There should be no ability for insurance companies to charge more for pre-existing conditions. Doing either of these two effectively eliminates the protection for pre-existing conditions. There are millions of Americans with diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and many other conditions that continue to require care for long periods of time or, in many circumstances, for life. Without detailed requirements for universal insurance at standard and affordable rates, these individuals will largely be eliminated from insurance coverage in a relatively short period of time by the economics of the insurance industry; they will simply price them out of the market!

The committee and the Congress must take more time, more effort and solicit far wider views and options to enhance and improve the current situation under the Affordable Care Act. Simply replacing it with something worse is not an improvement. Simply stripping many of the benefits, simply to save money, is not an improvement. There are significant complexities in our current system and inefficiencies that can be improved, enhanced and and lead to better outcomes at the same or lower cost. This is where Congress must pursue alternatives, not some fast sloppy fix.

David Glusman
[REDACTED]
Merion, Pa 19066

Sent from Xfinity Connect Mobile App

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Rubinstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

As a public health professional, a mother, and someone who has been living with a chronic disease for almost 25 years, I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Putting people's health at risk by increasing costs and decreasing access to care does not benefit our country in any way. And, to pass this bill when it has not even been scored by the CBO is downright irresponsible.

Please do the right thing and oppose passage of the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Thank you,
Susan Rubinstein
Susan Rubinstein, MPH
Havertown, PA 19083

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barry Nathan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 8:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@pahealthaccess.org
Subject: As your guide, please follow the Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 8, Versus 36

For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

In your heart and soul, you know that the Graham-Cassidy Bill is not good for Americans. For the good of your soul, please do what your heart tells you is right. Please do not pass this heartless, very problematic bill.

Both my wife and I are sole proprietor entrepreneurs; we know how important ACA has been for us since its inception. The subsidies have allowed us to afford and use our healthcare plan, especially for my wife a kidney transplant recipient. Prior to ACA, we paid over \$4000/year in prescription expenses with insurance that cost us over \$2000 per year. Since ACA, because of subsidies, our insurance costs have been by more cut in half, even this year. Our co-pay and prescriptions costs for Janice alone have been cut by about \$2000 in copays and over \$2000 in prescription costs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barry Nathan
Pittsburgh, PA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheri Woodruff [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL ACA - JUST FIX IT!

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Graham Cassidy ACA repeal bill. Bad for hard working Americans and bad for our country. Please just work on a bipartisan bill that improves the ACA. This repeal effort is irresponsible and this bill is horrendous. I'm tired of old, white men making bad decisions for the people of this great country just out of partisan spite.

Sheri Woodruff
New Hope, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Brennan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

As a practicing physician, I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will strip millions of Americans of their health insurance, make health care unaffordable for those with special needs or pre-existing conditions, and disproportionately affect low-income seniors, children, and those with disabilities. In addition, there has not yet been a CBO score, so the full impact of this bill is unknown, making a vote on it irresponsible. Any changes to the ACA should be made through due process in committees and then with input from all relevant stakeholders. I urge you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Laura K. Brennan, MD
Philadelphia, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JUDY/KEV PAMER [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Good Afternoon,

I am a 57 year old mother. I have 11 pre-existing conditions. More importantly I have an 18 year old son who has Down syndrome and is a leukemia survivor and recovering from catatonia associated with adolescence in Down syndrome. We both have lots of medical bills and take several medications.

I know the truth of this bill and I know what it would mean to my family, And so does every person in the Senate and house. I know how much cancer costs. I know how much disability costs. This bill will do nothing to help . People will not be able to afford insurance and people will die,

Since the day he was born we have been trying to save what we can toward my son's future. We know how little there is out there for him. I cannot see any future for him if our money is eaten up by our medical bills.

It is unfathomable to me that you are pushing this same bill through time and again when you know how many will be hurt. And why? because you are being taunted by the president and his 34%. It will be apparent to all if this bill passes that none of you are in office to serve. Your only loyalty is to yourselves.

The American people deserve better, and you can do better by them

Judith Pamer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Beaver, PA 15009

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Bradley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop cuts to Medicaid

Hello,

My name is Peter. I am 22 years old, and I live in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. When I was born, I wasn't breathing. I spent 10 days in the neonatal intensive care unit because I had bad seizures from the lack of oxygen. Many people think these problems happened because my mom's pregnancy wasn't covered by her health insurance plan in 1994. I was a pre-existing condition from conception.

When I got a little older, I was diagnosed with mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, which means it is difficult for me to speak clearly, and what I'm trying to say doesn't always come out. (I needed some help writing this letter). I also have auditory processing disorder, which means I comprehend speech slowly. I was diagnosed with a coordination disorder, too. So, it's difficult for me to write. I also have dyslexia, which made learning to read very challenging. Finally, I have cortical visual impairment, which means my eyes don't see everything clearly.

Because of my disabilities, I received speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and some physical therapy when I was in school. These were provided through Medicaid's School-Based Access program.

Thanks to Medicaid, I can read, understand the news, and write this letter to my elected officials. I also gained the skills I needed to work, earn a living, and maybe have a chance to support myself.

Thanks to my Medicaid waiver that provides job coaching when I need it and other help, I have a full-time job today as an Administrative Assistant in center city Philadelphia.

PLEASE do NOT cut Medicaid so people with disabilities like me and my friends with Down Syndrome, cerebral palsy, Autism, and other differences have an equal opportunity to be successful. Maternity care should also be covered and not optional.

Thank you,
Peter O'Halloran

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Luchette [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: New Health care plan Cassidy

Dear Senators,

Please do not pass this health care plan. It doesn't protect people like me - with pre-existing conditions. I had a stem cell transplant 4.5 years ago. Should I retire from teaching, I would need to use my husband's insurance. No one would take me.

Furthermore, I do not want Medicare cut for the poor. I do not want Planned Parenthood defunded. Planned parenthood has never received federal funds for abortion. Go ahead and keep that intact, but let poor women go there for their other needs such as mammograms.

Please hear our pleas.

Sincerely,

Ellen Luchette

[REDACTED]
Limerick, PA 19468

--

Cheers!

Ellen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

My name is Suzan Hirsch and I am from Pennsylvania. Currently I am on my husband's health insurance plan that he is eligible for through his employer. Like millions of Americans, I have a pre-existing condition, Type I Diabetes. Due to the wonderful health care I have access to, I do very well living with this condition. I wear an insulin pump and use a glucometer at least 5 times a day. These supplies are expensive but my insurance covers much of the cost. Without them, I would not be able to live the wonderful, full life I lead as I could have serious side effects from my diabetes, ie. neuropathy, vision issues, etc.

Vote NO to the Graham Cassidy bill! It is no better than the last proposed bill. With a few tweaks, the ACA, can continue to help the citizens of the United States.

Vote NO, Suzan Hirsch

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Timothy P. Kearney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To the US Senate Finance Committee,

As a resident of Pennsylvania, I am appalled at what this bill will do to my state's already terrible budget woes. As an elected official, I am appalled at the arrogance of the authors who would force this upon the American people without any type of understanding as to the effect of it.

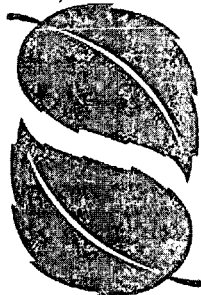
As a small business owner, I am appalled at what this will do to our health care options and budget.

As a human being, I am appalled at the cruelty of this bill with regard to our most vulnerable citizens.

Please do NOT do this to the American people.

Timothy Kearney
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Tim Kearney
Mayor, Borough of Swarthmore



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bethany Slater [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO

This bill would be a detriment to our most vulnerable populations (people with disabilities, elderly people, low-income people, and children) and needs to be stopped. Americans deserve better than this. Healthcare should be a human right. If you pass this, we will protest, we will march, and we will VOTE.

*Beth Slater, BA
Supports Coordination Supervisor*

Partnership for Community Supports

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19114-3464
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Bennet, Senator (Bennet)
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date: Monday, September 25, 2017

Ruth Hong Brininger

[REDACTED]
Lakewood, CO 80232

September 22, 2017

Dear Senate Committee on Finance,

I am the mother of two young boys—three years and 19 months of age. I am writing to urge you to NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. You cannot allow the states to waive protections that the Affordable Care Act put into place for those with pre-existing conditions nor make cuts to the Medicaid program from the federal budget.

My three year-old was born 5 weeks premature and will continue to need healthcare services at every stage of life. Ever since, he's needed care from an adenoid removal to a tonsillectomy. He currently receives speech therapy through an individualized education plan (IEP) in preschool. As part of his IEP evaluation while he did not reach the threshold to receive occupational therapy through the school system, he receives OT weekly through our local children's hospital to help him with his gross motor skills. Without coverage, he would not receive the critical services to be healthy, grow and develop among his peers.

My 19 month old is diagnosed with mild-to-moderate bronchomalacia. 50% of his airways collapse due to weakened cartilage. He's had his fair share of procedures and visits to urgent care. He has daily medication, rescue meds, and an emergency plan due to respiratory illnesses that exacerbate his bronchomalacia. Luckily, he's able to receive the critical care he needs because he's protected by the prohibition of states to waive critical healthcare services to those with pre-existing conditions.

I couldn't imagine what a family who may not have coverage or those who rely upon Medicaid would do if their children were subjected to the health conditions that my children live with every day. I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

A concerned constituent,

Ruth Hong Brininger

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Ferrer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:02 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee—

This bill is a travesty. It is a naked, desperate attempt at repealing the ACA simply because its nickname has the word “Obama” in it and heaven forbid any of our former president’s accomplishments be allowed to stand.

This so-called bill has nothing to do with actual healthcare and well-being of our citizens and anyone who supports it forfeits the right to call themselves Pro-Life in any way, shape, or form.

Do what is right for the people of this country—not what will satisfy the bloodlust of a craven few.

Sincerely,

Barbara Pollak
Kenmore, WA

[REDACTED]

BETWEEN HERE AND GONE -

“...a story that’s breathtaking in its scope, and a heroine whose strength will leave readers in awe.”

—*Publisher’s Weekly* Starred Review/PW Best Books 2016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susanne Slavick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy Bill

I do not support any bill that further destabilizes insurance markets and leaves fewer people without insurance (or unable to afford it). I oppose any removal of the coverage for pre-existing conditions. The bill is being forwarded through an undemocratic process with no analyses of a CBO score. The bill is irresponsible, inhumane and immoral.

--

Susanne Slavick and Andrew Ellis Johnson
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh PA 15237

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Richardson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will take Medicaid away from so many people who need and rely on that care.

I want to tell you about my sister, Barbara Duplaisir who lives in Greenville, PA. She worked as a parochial school teacher all of her life. The church did not provide retirement, and her Social Security paycheck is very small. Without Medicare as her health provider, she would have none. There are so many people like her who are deserving of help from the government.

To pass a bill that hurts so many people is not a win for any political party. Please consider the lives you are ending, and the people you are hurting in trying to pass this bill. Consider humanity.

Kathleen Richardson
[REDACTED]
Mars, PA 16046

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Helene Gottfried [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care story

Senators and their staffers:

It's going around the Internet that you are seeking our stories about how healthcare and the Graham-Cassidy bill will affect us personally. So here is mine.

I was divorced in July 2013. By that point, I'd been running my own small business, working as a freelance editor to authors of fiction for a year and a half. This would not have been possible without the ACA, but it benefitted my family greatly, as my kids were still young enough to need me at home before and after school. I have been their pillar as we've all dealt with an abusive husband and father.

Best of all, I adore what I do, and I am excellent at it.

In January 2016, I had a bicycling accident. It was a freak thing, and no one knows what happened, but I wound up in emergency surgery that day to save my right eye. I was both blessed and lucky enough to get the state's best surgeon at my side, and we saved my eye and my vision. But permanent damage was done, giving me a glaucoma-like condition. It requires ongoing care, including daily drops and frequent scans.

The pre-existing conditions in Graham-Cassidy would cause both my premiums and my medical expenses to skyrocket. While my business is successful, I still live very close to paycheck to paycheck and the subsidy to pay my premiums is a huge help. Because my ex's own deteriorating mental health situation is affecting his ability to maintain the high-skill computer engineering jobs he used to hold, my kids are covered by CHIP for their own medical needs.

CHIP is about to expire because we are so busy fighting over Graham-Cassidy.

I am fighting, therefore, to retain my eyesight so that I can work and not be fully disabled. Think of what you would lose if you lose your vision -- the ability to work, to drive, to watch your children grow, to see the difference between night and day.

The premium increases and the added cost increases of my ongoing care, for a body part we fought so hard to save, would bankrupt me in short order.

How is this what a hard-working American deserves?

Please vote against Graham-Cassidy and instead focus on a bipartisan solution to shoring up the deficits of the ACA -- and they do exist, absolutely. Unfortunately, the alternative being presented to us in the form of Graham-Cassidy is so much worse. My kids have watched me fight for them, for a better life for ourselves, for my vision.

Don't take any of that away from us. Vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Thanks-
Susan Helene Gottfried
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Bock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Act

Please do not move forward with Graham-Cassidy. It gives too much control to the states and could leave millions uninsured and with access to health care due to pre-existing conditions.

Thank you,
Jim Bock
Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gelfand, Joel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

Importance: High

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state (Pennsylvania) has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.

Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.

Rather than stripping health care from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets and fixing the ACA. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.

Most sincerely,

Joel

Joel M. Gelfand, MD, MSCE

Professor of Dermatology

Professor of Epidemiology

Vice Chair of Clinical Research and Medical Director, Dermatology Clinical Studies Unit

Director, Psoriasis and Phototherapy Treatment Center

Senior Scholar, Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics

University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Stewart [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Kennedy

It is appalling the Graham-Kennedy Plan does not prevent insurance companies from charging more for pre-existing conditions or from instituting a lifetime cap. I urge you to consider the opinions of experts including the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association ("This bill harms our most vulnerable patients"), the American Public Health Association ("Graham-Cassidy would devastate the Medicaid program, increase out-of-pocket costs, and weaken or eliminate protections for people living with pre-existing conditions"), the National Institute for Reproductive Health ("the Graham-Cassidy bill preys on underserved communities ... a clear and present danger"), and Federation of American Hospitals ("It could disrupt access to health care for millions of the more than 70 million Americans") and do not allow this bill in its present form to pass the Senate

My son was born 2 months premature, thru not fault of mine. He was born with a preexisting condition. He is now a 15 year old with ADHD, Moderate intellectual disability and will require medication throughout his lifetime. Any loss of insurance benefits or increase in cost could be extremely detrimental.

Angela Stewart
Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liane Norman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

To members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Health care, in civilized countries, is considered a right, not a privilege of the moneyed few.

We, the American people, finance your health care and that of your colleagues in the Senate and the House.

The Affordable Care Act isn't perfect, though it's better than a healthcare not-free-for-all. It's time to replace it with Medicare for All, which would include all members of the Senate and the House and the other two branches of government.

I've experienced a single-payer plan when, living in Australia when I was 14, I developed a health care crisis, had surgery and blood transfusions, spent a week in the hospital and was charged zero pounds, even though I wasn't a citizen.

Stop trying to undercut the ACA. Instead, act to improve it; honor the oath you each took to serve the American people.

Yours sincerely,
Liane Ellison Norman
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Bradley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop cuts to Medicaid/Vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill

I
Hellow,

My name is Peter. I am 22 years old, and I live in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, 19090. When I was born, I wasn't breathing. I spent 10 days in the neonatal intensive care unit because I had bad seizures from the lack of oxygen. Some people think these problems happened because my mom's pregnancy wasn't covered by her health insurance plan in 1994. I was a pre-existing condition from conception.

When I got a little older, I was diagnosed with mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, which means it is difficult for me to speak clearly, and what I'm trying to say doesn't always come out. (I needed some help writing this letter). I also have auditory processing disorder, which means I comprehend speech slowly. I was diagnosed with a coordination disorder, too. So, it's difficult for me to write. I also have dyslexia, which made learning to read very challenging. Finally, I have cortical visual impairment, which means my eyes don't see everything clearly.

Because of my disabilities, I received speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and some physical therapy when I was in school. These were provided through Medicaid's School-Based Access program.

Thanks to Medicaid, I can read, understand the news, and write this letter to my elected officials. I also gained the skills I needed to work, earn a living, and maybe have a chance to support myself.

Thanks to my Medicaid waiver that provides job coaching when I need it and other help, I have a full-time job today as an Administrative Assistant in center city Philadelphia.

PLEASE do NOT cut Medicaid so people with disabilities like me and my friends with Down Syndrome, cerebral palsy, Autism, and other differences have an equal opportunity to be successful. Maternity care should also be covered and not optional.

Thank you,
Peter O'Halloran

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO NO NO Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern

I understand Monday you will hold hearings to examine the Graham-Cassidy et al proposal, a project I encourage you to reject.

My name is Kate Fialkowski, I live in Pennsylvania and I am writing to you on behalf of several members of my family who receive health care from Medicaid. 1) I have a family member who contracted encephalitis which resulted in a permanent and significant "traumatic brain injury" and at 55 was unable to work. Until this time she worked at the US Post Office in a Management Position, and worked approximately 70 hours a week. Medicaid allowed her to access rehab which helped her regain sufficient skills to return to her home and her family rather than living in a nursing home the rest of her life, at 55! 2) I have a brother who was born with intellectual and developmental disabilities including cerebral palsy and he needs 24x7 supports. My brother is on the Home and Community Based Services Waiver which provides him a) a home in the community with others and a 24x7 staff b) the opportunity to live a life sharing in all the benefits of community membership like the library, swimming at the Y, and going to Phillies games (none of which cost anything other than the 24x7 staff) c) supported employment because it may surprise you to know that my brother has his own business which is more than a job, it gives him a role in the community and the opportunity to participate in commerce, have a bank account, go to the post office -- and all those places we have normal relationships with our neighbors.

I vehemently protest this bill for the following reasons:

1. This bill presumes that states are the best judge of using their money. I will tell you that there are lots of competing interests in a state and **vulnerable populations who cannot speak for themselves do not get the adequate financial attention of the state**. It is the job of the Federal Government to set a minimum acceptable standard. Without lawsuits which ultimately lead to federal laws, children with disabilities would not be in schools, colleges, employment, or even at home or in their neighborhoods, towns, and communities. Every single year we have to advocate for sufficient funding for services for people with disabilities and especially for people with the most significant disabilities. There is no money today and certainly with these cuts we will be in crisis. As a family member who has been advocating for 50 years, I can tell you that nothing has happened to support people with significant disabilities unless there is a federal mandate.

2. This bill neglects to address the reality of how the system works. **The current minimum standard enforced by the federal law is institutional care** -- institutional care means warehousing (Willowbrook: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=87975196> and Pennhurst: <http://weirdnj.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Newspaper-Full-Page-1972.jpg>) which was experienced throughout the United States. We are the age that these atrocities were during our lifetime and we had another brother who was institutionalized and experienced warehousing first-hand. **"Waivers" are OPTIONAL and this Bill does not protect the vulnerable who are on waivers**. And when states have no money, we know that optional services are the first to go. Federal law makers have an obligation to manage the financial impacts AND THE HUMAN IMPACTS. This bill ignores the "collateral human damage." I implore you to learn about the waivers, and the vulnerable population whose very lives depend on you.

3. This bill destroys the lives of the most vulnerable. To say that it protects them is dis-ingenuous. Children who are born with, for example, developmental disabilities (such as Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, etc) often have co-occurring medical conditions that require lifetime interventions. These **lifetime caps can be spent in the first 5 years of a child's life**. Then what happens when they are older and have no place to live, no services, no supports?

4. **This bill will impact children with disabilities for a lifetime**. Children who need early interventions like speech and occupational therapies receive medicaid to pay for these services. Schools receive medicaid payments to support the teachers and therapists on staff. And these services allow the children to be integrated in their local schools, attending school with their peers and in their neighborhood. Cutting medicaid will cut out the funding in the school system and will prevent children from getting the early interventions they need.

5. This bill totally ignores the Medicaid *system*. I've been managing the services and supports for my brother for 25 years. **The medicaid system is a complicated, intricate, intertwined behemoth. The medicaid system is not only a funding stream it is a funding stream intertwined with policies and regulations from the state all the way to the local level. It impacts people, schools, health care, rehab, daily living supports, employment, technology, therapies, and more.** The impacts of people on/off the system is a fraction of the scope of potential impacts. If you impact childhood therapies, the impacts can last a lifetime. If you impact rehab, the impact means that a person goes to a nursing home at 55! If you impact daily living supports, the impact means that a person doesn't get to go to the bathroom, take shower, and instead may languish isolated in bed! If you impact accommodations/ assistive technology then you impact a person having the option to speak with others! If you impact employment supports, you impact the entire realm of community participation and having a valued role in the community. These impacts do not only impact the one person on medicaid but they impact entire family units and communities and school systems. You are responsible for these system-wide impacts.

Yes, you are a finance committee but even still you are not just responsible for NUMBERS, you are responsible for the **IMPACTS TO PEOPLE**. You are responsible for the whole picture. You are responsible for the collateral damage you will cause. You are not doing your job if you don't understand how the system **really** works and what the actual risks and consequences are. I've been managing my brother's supports for 25 years now and I can tell you the reality of the implementation and I'm telling you as a voice of experience that what you propose will have catastrophic effects for my brother, other members of our family, and 44.3 million children, seniors, people with disabilities. Our most vulnerable population already sits on a system that is grossly underfunded -- to believe that this proposal will not impact our families is absurd.

I also know that there is room for improvements both greater efficiencies and lower costs. But it requires a scalpel not a hatchet. Like a surgeon you have to know what things have to be protected -- any health care bill that does not acknowledge these vulnerable populations and put into place protections for the most vulnerable is inadequate and must be rejected.

I strongly condemn the Graham-Cassidy Bill and urge you, plead with you, pray for you to also reject this bill
Kate Fialkowski
Phila, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to bill

GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

Dear Senators:

I am highly opposed to this bill. It appears to be a "rush job" that will take away healthcare from countless people or make it completely unaffordable. Work on a bipartisan health bill to fix Obamacare. This is a heartless bill that will kill many senior citizens and people living with pre-existing conditions.

Respectfully,

Jeff Dombach
Lancaster PA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

william carlson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Johnson, Jennifer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO Graham Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Jennifer Johnson and I live in rural Pennsylvania, 17815. Many of my friends rely on the patient protection and affordable care act for their health coverage. They are rightly afraid that this bill will make Insurance cost prohibitive to them. Most major medical associations say this bill will be disastrous. Don't do it!

Jennifer Johnson 17815

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CHRISTOPHER MORAN [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

CHRISTOPHER MORAN
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Devon, Pennsylvania 19312

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M. Struble [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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M. Struble
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, PA, Pennsylvania 19146

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Keiper [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care repeal

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have been an RN for almost 40 years and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Kathryn Keiper MSN RN

Stroudsburg PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. This is a disgraceful attempt by the senate to ruin lives, not introduce good health care. Please improve the ACA. Sincerely, Arlene Longstreth, Verona PA 15147

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Greta Bunin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comment on Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My young adult daughter has more than one pre-existing condition. Under the Graham-Cassidy bill, I fear her premiums will be unaffordable to her. I am now over 60. From my experience, at some point, we all will have pre-existing conditions, whether it be high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cancer, or diabetes. If overweight and obesity are considered illnesses, which I suspect they will be in the near future, two-thirds of American adults will have a pre-existing condition. The point of insurance is to share the risk. Those of us without pre-existing conditions should be thankful we are healthy and be willing to pay similar premiums as those who are less healthy.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Greta Bunin

Elkins Park PA

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom DeMarco [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Angela Coen
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

My sister and I both possess health problems. I have epilepsy, and despite being seizure-free for almost seven years, my medication would mean I would be thrown in a high-risk pool that would likely be underfunded. My sister has suffered from Tetralogy of Fallot since birth. Just last November, she in the hospital for open-heart surgery. She was admitted and discharged in 13 hours. That one trip cost over a hundred thousand dollars. Without insurance, my family would be in such financial ruin that I would have no means to send this email. She'll grow to be far more useful to society than I'll be, and needs her insurance to keep her alive.

It's disheartening as a citizen to see after so many attempts at healthcare since March, this most recent plan, one that should have improved on the weaknesses of the old and had bipartisan input, be barely anything more than a punishment to those states which expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and rewarding states that didn't by letting them keep their current system (the very system the Republican platform has been, for seven years, to repeal). The original House bill, the AHCA, had six of its 96 pages dedicated to defining the process for removing lottery winners from the market. Yet miraculously, rather than eradicating such colossally pointless stupidity from the great halls of Congress, it somehow became the basis of the current bill. At a time where our country's divisions have already cost some (Heather Heyer) their lives, having such separate systems by state, with the produced effect of punishing those who dared give their people easier access to basic health care, does not bode well for any of the 320 million citizens in this country.

Republicans in Congress: Listen to John McCain. The man knows what's right and what's wrong. Getting the ACA through Congress took over a year. Your seven years of rhetoric about "repeal and replace" implied you had a better plan in mind, one that would cover more people at a lower cost (something the President himself has promised numerous times). We citizens expect such a bill to take longer than the ACA to come to a final vote in the Senate, not hastily constructed in a few weeks and rushed with no complete CBO score and only one sham hearing (the one you're currently in/will be sitting in Monday morning). Repealing the ACA like this will not fulfill your promise. Work with Democrats. Get those "millions more uninsured" bylines turned into "increases number of insured by". That's what the majority of us want to see, what you had in Lamar-Alexander. Your conservative forefathers in Germany figured this out with the Sickness Insurance Law a hundred and thirty-four years ago. You're the party controlling the White House and Congress; if you want that to continue, you need to remember what true leadership looks like, as countless members of your own party keep reminding you.

One final thought: the full title of the ACA is the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act". It hasn't been surprising that none of the plans proposed to replace it have contained the words "Patient", "Protection", or "Affordable".

Regards,
T
Pennsylvania

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am epileptic.

I am narcoleptic.

I am asthmatic.

I have a rare metabolic disorder.

I have neurofibromatosis.

In other words, I have pre-existing conditions.

I have worked hard my whole life.

I will eventually go bankrupt if pre-existing conditions are excluded from quality, affordable healthcare.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Alice Young

Tunkhannock PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Wirth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy -- where are your ethics?

To whom it may concern:

I am emailing to voice vehement disapproval of the Graham Cassidy health care bill. The very notion that our legislators would force through a bill without proper due diligence -- the real costs in uninsured lives, insurance premiums, budget scoring, etc -- is evidence of a severely broken system. Do your jobs.

Jessica in Swarthmore PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jordan Magill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

I am initially concerned about the way this building is being rushed just to bypass opposition and meet a deadline, it feels as though it is more about just getting it passed and less about whether or not it would be helpful for the majority of Americans. Being a recipient of public health in the past and currently working in public health, I cannot stress how harmful and potentially dangerous this change will be. Getting into treatment, for addiction or mental health is a very scary and difficult thing, enacting a bill that makes it even harder, or impossible will be a tragedy. I just remember the last rehab I went to (which was over 3.5 years ago) and how it was only possible through the ACA as myself not my family had the necessary funds. I have a wonderful life today and it was made possible through a lot of hard work and the ACA. Please think carefully about this.

-J

Jordan Magill
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Schaefers Schaefers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Schaefers Schaefers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mars, Pennsylvania 16046

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeffrey Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Jeffrey Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15237

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Henry Albert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Henry Albert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania 19027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: steve karas [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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steve karas
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15221

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Moats [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Lynn Moats
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FAYETTEVILLE, Pennsylvania 17222

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: J.T. Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

J.T. Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Sellersville, Pennsylvania 18960

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mae Sterrett [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would deprive 32 million people of healthcare. This would devastate working families and roll back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this Graham-Cassidy bill is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Mae Sterrett

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania 19348

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Deskins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy bill!!!!

I'm a 58-year-old Pennsylvanian and have lived in Centre County for decades. I'm middle class and make around \$22k a year. Because I work part-time, I am not eligible for my employer's health insurance, so I buy my own coverage every year through the ACA marketplace.

Each year, the health insurance choices through the ACA marketplace have gotten BETTER with many plans to choose from. This year, my plan not only covers EVERYTHING (no cap, no restrictions, no pre-existing condition limitations), but it costs me about \$100/mo premium thanks to the ACA subsidy. My co-pay to see my doctor is \$5. My deductible is \$1000. My blood-pressure meds are FREE every month and my allergy meds are \$4/mo.

It should come as no surprise to you that I WANT TO KEEP MY COVERAGE JUST THE WAY IT IS!!!!
Not the watered-down, ridiculously expensive, capped version I'll get stuck with -- if I even qualify for insurance at all! -- through the hideous bill the Senate is trying to shove through. VOTE NO ON THE Graham-Cassidy BILL!!! Don't condemn me to bad or no insurance. Make the ACA better and help me!! That's supposed to be what you're in office to do -- help your constituents.

-Cindy Deskins
State College PA 16803

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Hagedorn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Paul Hagedorn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Takacs [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Both Democrats and Republicans reform the problems with Healthcare. Not replace. Make it better for Everyone. 32 million lives you hold, plus Veterans benefits. Killing people is wrong, you will be held accountable. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

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Judith Takacs
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Easton, Pennsylvania 18042

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Beck [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Kathryn Beck
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Anthony [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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James Anthony
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania 19006

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Katz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

I'm an old woman on a fixed income, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare as do most of my friends and peers. We are adamantly opposed to the Graham/Cassidy bill, with all the potential losses in affordable coverage that it would allow. What we need is a bipartisan effort to IMPROVE THE ACA, NOT REPEAL IT!

Thank you,
Susan Katz
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Klauk [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

It is clear that most Republicans care more for big donors than they do for their constituents and they must believe that the people who vote for them are really stupid and will not notice that they no longer have good health care insurance (or any at all) thanks to the candidates for whom they voted

Elizabeth Klauk
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New Oxford, PA, Pennsylvania 17350

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melanie Cohick [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Melanie Cohick
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania 17007

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Nancy Evans
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17113

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ronald Hammill [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Ronald Hammill
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh,, Pennsylvania 15227

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sally kraft [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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sally kraft

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Easton, Pennsylvania 18045-3815

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barty Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I am vehemently opposed to the latest abomination of healthcare that has been sent forth. It is an insult to the process the way it was done without time for sufficient review and with dire consequences for the less well off and great benefits for the more wealthy. What kind of representatives are you who work for the good of the wealthy at the cost of the others? Also, it is a horrendous sham that we even have to speak out against these and previous attempts to weaken our already insufficient healthcare. We need universal healthcare like other developed countries have which is administered by the more efficient government rather than one which is run by the insurance and pharma. companies and to preserve the wealth of the doctors which already is out of line. Serve the interests of the nation as a whole and stop serving the rich and powerful!

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Barty Thompson
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: VASILIOS GIKAS [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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VASILIOS GIKAS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SHARON, Pennsylvania 16146

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Roe [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Honorable Senators

I am writing about the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill currently scheduled for a vote in the Senate in the coming week. At the age of 57, I find myself dying of cancer. I am extremely fortunate to have first-class health insurance through an employer-based plan. I'm not writing on my behalf but on behalf of my wife. When I'm gone, she is likely to be left to the individual healthcare market. Because of the "discretion" which Graham-Cassidy gives to states, if she was unlucky enough to find herself in the same situation that I am she might face premium hikes that have been estimated at up to 3,500% - as a condition of taking out coverage, or even as a condition of continuing coverage from year to year. Many other Americans with terminal conditions would find themselves in the same place, with "insurance" that disappears at the moment it is most needed.

It's my personal anxiety for my family that disturbs my sleep at night. Beyond that, though, I believe that we as a people can do better than this sort of bait-and-switch. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not a last-ditch, one-sided attempt to sink it.

Thank you for your attention

John Roe
State College, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Taby [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 30 Billion Dollars!

My name is Sarah Taby and my preexisting condition is ADHD and my husband's is a seizure disorder. We own our own business and can afford to do so because of the subsidies the federal government provides for individuals that make too much money but not enough. Additionally PA took the Medicaid expansion and now your going to take our funds and reward states that made poor choices. This bill is terrible and if it passes the people that die from it will be on your hands!

Sincerely,

Sarah Taby
Carlisle, PA 17013

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Werber [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing condition concerns Diabetes. My husband, who is currently undergoing rehab for his knees depends on affordable healthcare. My friends rely heavily on affordable healthcare for their cancer diagnosis and bipolar depression. My parents rely heavily on affordable healthcare for my mother's breast cancer survival and my father's dialysis. I would love to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Werber

Pittsburgh, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please keep ACA!

Hello,

My husband is in his early 70's and has a spinal cord injury. I am in my late 60's and recently had a hip replacement. We currently have health insurance through my husband's employer, but are uncertain what our future will bring.

Please do NOT repeal the ACA.

The GOP bill will greatly harm seniors. It will force patients to go to the ER. It will force many rural and even suburban hospitals to close or greatly reduce service.

Janet Elliott
Newtown Square, PA 19073

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Gibb [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Robert Gibb
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frank Furey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Frank Furey

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Tregidgo [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Richard Tregidgo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Holtwood, ; Pennsylvania 17532

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephen Schwartz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Stephen Schwartz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Gradyville, Pennsylvania 19039

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Collette Twyman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Collette Twyman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathi Gillin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Kathi Gillin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yardley , Pennsylvania 19067

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CW Savitzky [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

Many millennials, including my daughter and her partner work in what is known as the "gig economy". They work at two, three or more part time jobs to cobble together a decent income. They receive no benefits from these jobs. My daughter has a doctorate in her field but still she works as a 1099 employee. She has benefited from the ACA and while young and healthy, she still stands to lose her health care if the ACA is repealed.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

CW Savitzky
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Maple Glen, Pennsylvania 19002

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tristan Petraglia [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Tristan Petraglia
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONNELLSVILLE, Pennsylvania 15425

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Troy Frank [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Troy Frank

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

State College, Pennsylvania 16801

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cassandra Tereschak [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Cassandra Tereschak
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18510

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dale Pincus [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Dale Pincus

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Flourtown, Pennsylvania 19031

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gabriele Markert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Gabriele Markert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Abbottstown, Pennsylvania 17301-9073

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Stamy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Cynthia Stamy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15215

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: greta Aul [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Also, save Planned Parenthood who provides primary care to many women and men in underserved communities.

greta Aul
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: dan lettrich [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. .

dan lettrich

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Stradtman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families. No one, who takes orders from the Koch Brothers or who is willing to engage in "bipartisan compromise" with the element, deserves to hold public office.

George Stradtman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania 19027

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leo Kucewicz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Leo Kucewicz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460-5922

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ted Wray [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Ted Wray

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Al Roesch [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Al Roesch

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lansdale , Pennsylvania 19446

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linnea Xue [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Linnea Xue
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh PA, Pennsylvania 15220

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Tafuri [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Peter Tafuri
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fleetville, Pennsylvania 18420

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nick Hammer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Nick Hammer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DUBOIS, Pennsylvania 15801

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gary Greiner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Gary Greiner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

York, Pennsylvania 17402

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephan Tokarski [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Stephan Tokarski
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Aldan, Pennsylvania 19018

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Nancy Evans

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brenda Uhler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This bill continues the relentless GOP march toward ripping the healthcare away from millions of poor and working class people. The ideology behind this relentless pursuit is nothing less than an attack on their fellow Americans. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes. Furthermore, during my career with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I remember well that the durable medical equipment as it was referred to then instead of medical device industry was rife with issues and schemes to bilk consumers and Medicaid. Why on earth would anybody give them a tax break? It is time to take a common sense bipartisan approach to fixing the issues with the Affordable Care Act which has helped millions of Americans and lowered the rate of those who are uninsured. Why would we want to return to that bleak place where many people are forced out of the ranks of the insured due to financial issues or pre-existing conditions? It is time for common sense to prevail.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Brenda Uhler
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ashleigh Riehl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Ashleigh Riehl

Pittsburgh, PA

Ashleigh Riehl

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lorraine Storms [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because my husband was diagnosed with a rare pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor in May.

He underwent surgery and has been out of work and dealing with complications from the surgery since June 5. What should have been a 6-week recovery period has quickly turned into 16 weeks and counting. He is expected to be out of work through the end of October and possibly through November at this point. His short term disability pays only 70% of his income and we are a one-income household with two young children. The medical costs of his condition are staggering. Without our insurance, we would have lost our home and our lives. To date, we've paid \$10,000 out of pocket. For a family that was already living on a tight budget, this has made our lives extremely difficult, and we constantly feel as though we are only one doctor's visit away from financially going under completely.

The last thing we need to be worrying about right now is having lifetime caps reinstated by insurance companies when states are given the right to allow insurance companies to increase costs for those with pre-existing conditions. Do not allow this Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson measure to pass as it will endanger millions of lives, including my husband's. This is not how our congressmen and women should be treating Americans. I am appalled and angered at the insinuation that some lives are worth more than others. If congress wants to show that they value American lives, fix the ACA and install universal healthcare.

Sincerely,
Lorraine Storms
[REDACTED]
Reading, PA 19606

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanne Burke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Take Action Against GrahamCassidy Bill

I respectfully request that you take action against the GrahamCassidy bill. This plan does nothing to promote health or provide healthcare. Hospitals will bear the burden by an increase in uninsured, thus jeopardizing healthcare delivery to all and destroy healthcare jobs on which many communities thrive.

Please take action to fix the ACA so that individuals are insured. Stabilizing the ACA will promote health and contribute to keeping health care costs from exploding.

Sincerely,

Joanne Burke
Yardley, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eugenia Gerdes [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

I am strongly against this effort to repeal the ACA and redistribute healthcare funds. Before the ACA, my daughter could not obtain affordable health insurance due to scoliosis surgery when she was 14 years old, even though her surgery completely eliminated her problem. Several of my other close relatives were uninsured. Now they all have adequate insurance. Although there are practical problems to be fixed concerning rising premium costs and too few insurers in some exchanges, similar problems existed before the ACA. Medical professionals, hospitals (especially rural hospitals), senior citizens, women's groups, and the American public in general favor the protections offered in the ACA legislation. In both my home state of WV and my current state of PA, many, many people will lose health insurance if the ACA is repealed. The fledging attempts to fix the ACA led by Senators Alexander and Murray are the way to proceed, not this bill.

Sincerely,
Eugenia P. Gerdes

--

Eugenia P. Gerdes, Ph. D.
Professor *Emerita* of Psychology
Dean *Emerita*, College of Arts & Sciences
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Csaszar [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

John Csaszar
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fleetwood, Pennsylvania 19522

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol O'Neill [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

The ACA needs to be improved by making it more affordable and covering everyone. It does NOT need to be dismantled. We could pay for healthcare and many more important issues by slashing the ever-increasing funding for war and by bringing troops home from war zones.

Just do it.

Carol O'Neill
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania 16877

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John R. Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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John R. Thomas

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Shaddock [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate becauseI am a nurse that works with special needs children. With this bill and the proposed cuts too medicare these children will not get the care, therapies they need. Many who live at home now with their families will have to be institutionalized because they will not recieve the care they need a at home and the families well not be able to afford their care. This is not pro life. These children and families go through so much they don't need their healthcare threatened. This is only one group that well be adversely effected. Many of us will lose benefits. Please do not vote To pass this bill. It will not help but well harm a vast number of Americans. Including our most vulnerable.

Jill Shaddock
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Ann Opecko [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because everyone in America deserves good healthcare. This bill would cause so many to lose healthcare and many to get limited care. A healthcare bill should lead to favorable health outcomes for the average American. Good healthcare should not be reserved for people like you or for the rich. In the interest of cost, efficiency, and justice do not repeal the ACA repair it.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Opecko

Mary Ann Opecko

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Bozich [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I feel that it is imperative that people are not penalized for having preexisting conditions. As a physical therapist in a health system that serves many rural Pennsylvanians, I see many people who could never before obtain or afford health insurance plans. If the current policies regarding lifetime maximums and preexisting conditions do not continue, it will have a catastrophic effect on the health and financial well being of myself and many others in my area.

It is also unfair to include clauses that give preferential treatment to states such as Alaska. All Americans should have the same ability to obtain quality, affordable health care.

Thank you,

Karen Bozich

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Johanna Greenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will strip 32 million people of their healthcare. I will soon lose my job and I do not know what my health insurance will be like if this bill is passed.

Johanna Greenberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Pfeiffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Under the Graham-Cassidy bill, millions of Americans will lose health care coverage. That in itself should be enough to scuttle this bill. But in addition, persons with preexisting conditions will lose the guarantee of affordable coverage, and the individual states will be saddled with an impossible burden. Virtually every organization in the health care field is against Graham-Cassidy, and no one is in a better position to evaluate this bill. Instead of reinventing the wheel, we need to rethink and repair the program we already have.

Joyce Pfeiffer
Warminster, PA 18974

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Linstead [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because as a former enrollment program manager and enrollment outreach trainer, I have personally met dozens of people whose lives were saved by the ACA. So many people worked tirelessly to expand coverage, many have reaped the rewards of care, and many have gained employment in healthcare as well. Hospitals have stayed open in Medicaid expansion states as they have closed in non-expansion states. The personal bankruptcy rate was cut in half.

It has not been perfect. Insurers mis-priced their plans early on and the Senate dismantled the risk corridor program. States that did not expand Medicaid as intended found themselves with more difficult risk pools, worsening the other shortfalls. There are good reasons people were upset about how the law was working. Still that doesn't mean we should go back. I used to work with people with chronic diseases and it was not uncommon for people to have to choose between paying for a heart valve surgery and paying for their mortgage. Sometimes they picked the latter.

It has taken a massive federal effort to shore up our healthcare system and expand care to millions, and it is a false narrative of the bill that returning a reduced amount of the funding back to the states with so few firm rules of the road will result in anything but a return to the old days.

As a Pennsylvanian, I am particularly insulted that the bill proposes punishing my state for following the law of the land for the last 7 years, and reducing our share of tax dollars to give them to states that refused to lengthen the lives of their citizens and support their medical systems. What makes anyone think they can do it now after so many years of disinterest? Why should my state and its citizens have to suffer? That a PA Senator could support such a bill causes one to question where his loyalties might lie.

In addition to the flawed policy, the process is so undemocratic that Senator McCain, who nearly gave his life for our democracy and whose best friend in the Senate is behind this legislation, is standing instead on the principle of regular order. As a committee you should be promoting public hearings where more than the bill's authors are able to testify. You should demand to review a full CBO score. Finance is not just about money, it is also about value. And you cannot know the true value of this bill without a full score.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments, I hope that one day we will see doctors and patients, hospital CEO and non-profit directors able to testify again to Congress on our country's healthcare needs.

Rachel Linstead
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Morris [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Rare disease patients and their families rely on the patient protections that the Senate is considering eliminating by passing the Graham-Cassidy plan. Specifically, this legislation brings back annual and lifetime caps, limitless out-of-pocket costs, and inadequate coverage by rolling back essential health benefits. This bill would also allow insurers to discriminate against rare disease patients by charging them premiums based upon their health status, thus pricing them out of the market.

In addition, rare disease patients and their families rely on Medicaid for life-sustaining and life-saving care. Under the Graham-Cassidy plan, federal funding of Medicaid would be substantially weakened by per capita caps and block grants, resulting in states potentially delaying or outright refusing coverage for necessary care.

I am asking you to stand up for the rare disease community by opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Beth Morris
[REDACTED]
Feasterville, PA 19053
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Yoma Ullman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care for Americans

I am Margaret Ullman, a citizen of this country, and I vote in Pennsylvania. I emphatically object to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. It deprives too many Americans of health care in a way little short of cruelty.

It would be more humane and effective to work in a bipartisan fashion to improve the existing ACA. Enmity to a single person, Obama, and a refusal to see the longer term effect of the proposed legislation, should not deprive so many of our own citizens of access to the health care they need.

Margaret Yoma Ullman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Newtown, PA 18940

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila A. Burke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA. Don't repeal it.

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill as it will put basic healthcare out of reach for many Americans. I own a small business in Pennsylvania and cannot afford higher premiums or deductibles as I carry the full cost of my insurance on my own. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Sheila A. Burke

[REDACTED]
W. Chester, PA 19382

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am retired and on Medicare. When I worked, I provided social services to low income people. I saw first hand the devastating effect on families without insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Betsy Smith

Kittanning PA

Betsy

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: For the record

To the Nation's Senators:

The Graham-Cassidy bill has been discredited by every respectable health-related organization. Voting this into law would be a dereliction of your duty to represent the interests of your constituents. Like all initial efforts, the ACA needs to be improved, but it should be done through a bipartisan effort with the interests of the American people, NOT the health insurance companies, at heart.

Thank you,
Lauren Brown
Lansdale, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Greg Colburn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject TrumpCare V.3

Dear Senators,

We need better healthcare, not worse. The Affordable Healthcare Act isn't perfect, but it made things better for 30 million Americans.

That's what good legislation does--it makes things better for ordinary citizens.

The latest TrumpCare travesty takes healthcare away from 20 million Americans. If this bill passes, it will kill Americans, not protect them.

We need to expand coverage, not shrink it. It also doesn't cover pre-existing conditions. That means if you have a disease or serious condition, insurance companies can deny you coverage.

Here's an idea: Instead of trying to gut or neuter the ACA, why not try to make it better?

Sincerely,

Greg Colburn

Hanover, PA 17331

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Eckstein Gerber [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham Cassidy

As a resident of PA (zip code 19086) I am extremely disappointed that the Senate would vote on Graham-Cassidy without allowing time for debate, amendments, or a full CBO score to come in. It is terrifying that 30 million people - including myself and my family - could lose their health care over the next few years as a result.

I urge you to do what you know is right. Work across the aisle to strengthen and fix the problems of Obamacare so that more people can access affordable healthcare. And please stop wasting so much time on repeal and replace bills that are unreasonable and cruel.

Thank you for your time.

Rebecca Gerber

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenny Bardwell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: keep ACA and improve it, not repeal it

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Genevieve Bardwell

Mt. Morris, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: eric mencher [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 7:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To the esteemed members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As with many American citizens, my issues are simple, yet very complex: I am a cancer survivor. Under the Affordable Care Act, I have coverage (not great coverage I'll be the first to admit, and I fully support bipartisan efforts to fix that which ails current law). Under Graham-Cassidy, I might not have coverage and if I were to have coverage, it would probably take all of my small pension to pay for it. Please, please consider what's best for the well-being of ALL the American people.

And moving forward, work together, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, to forge a plan that is fair to all and maintains our long-standing principles of caring for our fellow citizens.

Thank you.

Eric Mencher
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, PA 19147

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill - Fix the Affordable Care Act - All Americans deserve affordable health care and NOT JUST THE WEALTHY

All families rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. There are many defects in the Graham-Cassidy, and you know (or should know exactly what they are.)

Our family's story concerns our experience with allowing (for-profit) insurance companies to deny or charge more for people with pre-existing conditions.

My husband worked for 39+ years, until the company he worked for closed, and laid him off. At the age of 57, with high blood pressure, even though it was well controlled with medication, and diabetes, even though it was well controlled with medication, we were told by our insurance broker, who looked high and low to find affordable health insurance for him and my daughter, that he was "un-insurable" at any amount of money! That was the state of American health insurance prior to the Affordable Care Act.

If the Affordable Care Act had been in effect when he was laid off, he would have been able to get health insurance. No families should be forced to go through additional and unnecessary stress of not being able to afford health INSURANCE. The United States is the ONLY DEVELOPED COUNTRY THAT DOES NOT PROVIDE HEALTH INSURANCE TO ALL OUR PEOPLE. THAT IS TRULY UNACCEPTABLE.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Diane Tkocs

Pittsburgh PA 15237

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Hershman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My son was born with a genetic disorder, neurofibromatosis, that will impact his health for his entire life. He has needed several surgeries, and may develop cancer as a direct result of the fibroid tumors caused by his disorder.

Several years ago, I developed a host of seemingly-unrelated medical problems. I saw many specialists and endured numerous (expensive) tests before I finally was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease. I will always need frequent blood work, medications, and monitoring by several doctors.

Additionally, I am self-employed. Prior to the passage of the Affordable Health Care Act, I was unable to purchase the same insurance coverage as those who work for companies that provide insurance benefits, and experienced waiting periods for pre-existing conditions. My premiums were barely affordable, despite my relatively young age at the time. As a result, it took much longer to diagnose and begin treating my autoimmune disease because I was unable to afford to see the needed specialists and pay for the required tests.

Passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill is likely to bankrupt, or even kill me and my son.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Linda Hershman
Berwyn, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Grasso [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I believe it will be unaffordable for millions of Americans suffering with preexisting conditions which would be catastrophic.

In order to drive healthcare down, big Pharma should be looked at along with other measures to make ACA better.
Thank you.

Linda Grasso

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Donnan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it takes away the cap protection for our state (since Pennsylvania is not included in the bill as are two other lucky states), and it does not protect people with preexisting conditions. This means that people can again go bankrupt fighting an illness. How can this happen in a country that is supposed to be as great as ours is? Please work together to ensure that all American citizens can enjoy the protection that a well-thought out and carefully devised health plan can give us. Surely, you folks can work this out.

Deborah Donnan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Alice Whelan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because

....

This proposed Bill, if passed, will have devastating effects for individuals with disabilities or anyone with complex medical needs or pre-existing conditions. I urge you to vote "NO" on this proposed Bill.

Mary Alice Whelan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Bramblett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 9:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it penalizes states like mine, Pennsylvania, which received Medicaid money under the Affordable Care Act. To strip millions of Americans of coverage, which in your heart you know this does, is reprehensible. Take the time to read the proposal and it will be apparent to you that coverage for people with pre-existing conditions will be Unaffordable. Restore regular order and let American citizens, the medical community, and the CBO be heard.

Karen Bramblett

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diane Sweeney [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable health care

I have a 27 year old daughter that relies on health insurance that she secured through ACA. She is bipolar and struggles with addiction issues. I am afraid that passing the Graham-Cassidy bill will remove the only hope that we now have for some reasonable treatment for her. I am also well aware of the many people in the same or worse situation. I do not want to live in a country where on the one hand we feel people should have the opportunity to get as wealthy as they want, and yet others are not able to have the opportunity to even remain well. And while I'm at it, I am a public school teacher and I feel the same way about education.

Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.

Diane E. Sweeney
Haverford PA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Nolan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because
....

John Nolan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justin Goff [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I suffer from anxiety and depression. Because of this pre-existing condition and a gap in coverage in my early twenties, I struggled to find affordable care before the ACA. At one point, I even left the country in part because I could only afford treatment while living and working overseas. Hardworking Americans like me should not need to leave the country in order to afford routine mental health treatment. The ACA made it possible to me to move back to my hometown four years ago and start a family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Justin Goff

Mt Lebanon, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Lundrigan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I am strongly opposed to the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. Vote NO. It's time to give up REPEALING and just FIX ACA. Give us Americans what we deserve fair Affordable attainable easy good healthcare. Sincerely, Elizabeth Lundrigan. 8923 Calvert St. Philadelphia Pa. 19152

P.s. I am embarrassed that both sides cannot work together on this. I am embarrassed in so many ways by this administration.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rochelle Rabin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment re Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

Please vote "no" on this bill. The bill will strip millions of people from being able to afford health care and cause financial distress to those people and to the individual states. It is causing undue stress on people that you keep threatening to kill the ACA when so many of us rely on it.

Please move forward with a bi-partisan fix to the existing ACA, which has benefitted me by keeping my insurance affordable and given me great coverage through the exchange, and allowed so many people to be covered. Nothing is more important than safeguarding the health of the American people. Why have an expensive defense system if we're not defending a good quality of life for our people?

Rochelle Rabin

Rochelle Rabin
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Schad [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sir:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare through the ACA. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My story with pre-existing conditions and affordability is I am enrolled in BC/BS thru the ACA with subsidies because I am 63 years old, self-employed, but not yet eligible for Medicare for another 2 years. I make approx. \$22,000/annually. Without the ACA I would not have insurance at all - the premiums would be approx. 75% of my total annual earnings. If the ACA were to be repealed I would have no other choice but to go without medical insurance entirely until I turn 65. I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Beth Schad

[REDACTED]
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Stevens [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My entire family depends on high quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It was difficult for me to obtain insurance before ACA, even though I have very minor health issues. I cannot imagine what it was like for others with more serious ones. How can we possibly penalize the sickest citizens and the least privileged? We are all one or two health care bills away from bankruptcy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Stevens
Bryn Mawr PA 19010-1557

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy Howard [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

from: Dr. Joy Howard, [REDACTED], Philadelphia PA 19139

Fri, Sep 22, 2017

Dear Senators,

I write to beg you all to vote "NO" on the new iteration of health care reform that has been dubbed the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am one of many who will lose coverage because of a condition I was born with. I would be one of 32 million or more who would lose coverage. My sister will be cut too. My sister In law who received a kidney transplant will be cut off. So many people will be hurt.

I hold a PhD, am a college professor, a writer, a coach, and the director of Care at my church. I pay taxes and contribute a ton to my community. But without the Affordable Care Act, we could not afford insurance. But I do not think my right to health care should rest on whether I contribute a lot to my country. All people should have right to get access to affordable medical care.

Please do not cut affordable health care access just because you don't like a few parts of Obamacare.

Makes things better for people, not worse. If anything, you should be expanding the Affordable Care act so everyone has health care.

Sincerely, Dr. Joy Howard

Joy A. J. Howard, Ph.D.
|| Writing Coach, Editor, and Academic Writing Consultant for Faculty and Graduate Students ||

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Robbins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comment - Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. Not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

We are mothers who value life.

We are mothers who are angry that this horrific bill is even being considered.

We are mothers who are organized.

We are mothers with long memories.

Those of you who support this abomination underestimate us at your own peril.

There isn't enough Koch money to save you.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care.

Sincerely,
Susan H. Robbins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanette Schmoyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 11:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Good healthcare

My name is Jeanette Schmoyer. I live near Philadelphia PA. I had breast cancer in 1977. My daughter went through chemo and radiation for lymphoma last year. My sister is still recovering from abdominal cancer surgery in April. They removed her spleen, her appendix, her gall bladder, her omentin, and part of the lining of her abdomen. I have been cancer free for 40 years. If any of us that I have named above need health insurance in the future for a relapse and facing more cancer, will there be affordable insurance for us? There is no guarantee if it is left to the states. How many people with cancer and other life-threatening or life altering diseases will be out in the cold? We cannot afford to abandon people like that. President Trump promised to protect people with pre-existing conditions. His administration needs to keep the promise.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Rosenblitt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because gutting Medicaid will leave my teenage son who has severe disabilities with no healthcare and no means to live.

Richard Rosenblitt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ashley De Padua [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am a physician in Philadelphia who works primarily with patients living with significant disability. Yesterday, I met a woman whose daughter suffers from a rare neuromuscular disorder. Because of protection of her essential health benefits and her access to Medicaid, her sweet little girl has been able to receive rehabilitative/habilitative care and will soon be progressing to walking with a walker. My fear is without her assistive devices and therapy, she will backslide, lose function, and due to her neuromuscular disorder be at more risk for lung/respiratory weakness leading to death or significant worsening of her disability.

This is not a unique story. All of my patients have benefited from improved access to care and insurance coverage. As a rehab physician, who works with patients who have suffered catastrophic injuries resulting in permanent disability, essential health benefit protections have allowed my patients to get the care, therapy, aid, and medical devices they need to change their lives. I've met patients who had been essentially captive in their own homes, or stuck in nursing facilities who finally find themselves able to go out and live fulfilling lives as contributing members of society. To move back in with family. To live their life as fully as possible. Patients who have told me about rediscovering purpose, drive, and dignity. Please don't take this away from them.

Sincerely,
Ashley de Padua, MD

Ashley De Padua

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I am a 55 year old married woman who has many health problems which would put me in the pre-existing condition situation.

I suffer from asthma, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and depression. All of which are not lifestyle induced but rather the genetic gift from my ancestors.

My husband is a 57 year old man with diabetes. He was a landscaper for many years and now works as an educator for a non profit. We live paycheck to paycheck and would be financially destitute if we lost health insurance due to our health conditions.

Do not vote yes on this bill. Reform the ACA. Protect the lives of all in PA.

Megan Ward
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Scott [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is clearly a bill whose goal is to cut taxes for the rich, and clearly ignores the needs of everyday Americans. This is a cruel and heartless act on behalf of a party that is desperate. People will die. Children will die. Check your conscience. 6 years does not a career make- and we are awake.

Sincerely,
Christine Scott
Doylestown, PA

Christine Scott

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Croll Carolyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To the US Senate Finance Committee:

Sen Graham Cassidy is just the latest HIT MAN sent out by the Republican Congressional Conspiracy to inflict maximum harm onto the American least able to defend themselves against this horde of amoral mindless, racist traitors. Neither Graham or his handlers give a damn about anyone but themselves.

The hate President Obama and anything he managed to do to help the American people, because they have their knickers in a twist that Mr Obama was elected and managed to get all sorts of things done though these filthy GOP traitors tried every way they could think of to thwart his efforts.

Graham, is just another disgraceful soulless, arrogant but stupid jerk GOP Senator, getting his share of graft and willing to sell the rest of us, especially the kids, elderly, people with pre existing conditions, low income wage earners et al and no doubt would include his own Mother and kids...if required to keep his place at the GOP trough.

So power mad he and his beyond contempt GOP repulsive posse don't want to do the hard work of researching and working with the Democrats to try and draw up a workable long term plan to help ALL Americans....who they need to be reminded....

are paying their totally unearned salaries and THEIR luxurious healthcare plans.

Graham and his heinous useless cohorts need replacing, but before we can do that legally, we MUST prevent this latest sick sneak attempt to screw up our access to basic Healthcare Mr Graham and Co.

So sick of all this and the GOP.

Carolyn Croll
Phila, PA