

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phyllis Pautrat [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

I don't understand how any senator could support this, unless you just want to get a win for Trump so he won't send his minions out to smear you in your home state, or the health insurance companies own you.

Phyllis Pautrat, MSW, LCSW
Mount Laurel, NJ

Sent from XFINITY Connect Mobile App

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Laura Hopkins
Buffalo, New York
Sent from my Windows 10 phone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Martin-lopez [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No on Graham-Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy is not what constituents of any state want. All Americans want to be able to get medical care when they are sick, just as members of Congress do. Americans should not have to decide between dying and debt.

J. Martin-Lopez

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Fugate [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing, September 25, 2017

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing September 25, 2017

Kelly Fugate, ND, RN, HSMI
[REDACTED]
Schaumburg, Illinois 60193-5715

RE: Nurse in Illinois depends on Medicaid while awaiting SSDI approval 2-plus years, now has "pre-existing" conditions

Dear Congressperson(s):

I am a person who has been put into the position of using Medicaid. I live in Illinois, the state that didn't pass a budget for 3 years. Due to the State not paying its medical bills, I lost the services of a psychiatrist, therapist, and primary care provider - treating me for asthma and hypertension. Providers were not accepting "new Medicaid" patients. Flashbacks, night terrors, and suicidality worsened without treatment resulting in several preventable week-long inpatient hospitalizations, which only triggered my symptoms further. So having "insurance" coverage is not the same as having access to treatment and life-saving medications.

By all accounts, I meet your criteria for being 'worthy' of health care: white lady with a doctorate, RN for 28 years, widow of 19 years, suburban homeowner, attended Catholic school for twelve years in Baltimore - father (RIP) was a Marine - proof of continuous employer health care coverage since 1989, morally and fiscally responsible, no credit card debt, previously generous with donations of time and money, and have never missed an opportunity to vote.

In 2015, I became disabled and was diagnosed with PTSD. Having applied for SSDI - not welfare - in 2015, I depleted life savings paying out-of-pocket for my own health care expenses, with no income; it never occurred to me to apply for public assistance while awaiting SSDI approval. Nearly bankrupt with a house on the brink of foreclosure (home of 23 years, purchased with my husband), I applied and have been receiving Medicaid and SNAP benefits since June 2016, the Village of Hanover Park provided emergency grant assistance for utilities. I was told by Social Security not to expect a decision until mid-2018 at the earliest due to Illinois' backlog of processing SSDI applications.

I understand SSDI will back-pay; however, this will be of no comfort if I don't survive until then. I'm not exaggerating. I am literally fighting to try and stay alive long enough, so that the health care system I dedicated my life in service to, will step up and be there for me. It's a frayed thread of hope.

I live alone, friends living across our nation. Family is estranged because they are addicts and abusive; they were allowed to adopt me as a newborn.

So, you see, I've done nothing wrong. I lived well as a model citizen. I've played by all the rules. Illinois had demonstrated repeatedly its inability to provide for those of us most in need. It's absolutely outrageous to expect me to solely manage PTSD without health coverage and no income for 3 years, still waiting, still hoping. And I realize I'm one story, among millions. But I'm all I have. And I'm merely requesting honoring my inalienable rights, paid for with my taxes for over a quarter century.

Stop this nonsense. Stop acting as if you don't care whether or not I die. I've managed to survive these past two years without any income. Don't make navigating the nightmare which has become my life another statistic of 'died by suicide.' If it happens because this or a similar bill passes, YOU are culpable. May you never know my suffering, made worse by the ignorance of foolish men in powerful roles.

Sincerely,
Dr. Kelly Fugate

Sent from my iPhone & remember to disinfect yours

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing as a resident of Oregon.

I understand Oregon, a state that has expanded Medicaid, will be the biggest loser if this bill passes.

I find it very unfair that some states will fare better than others with this bill. This, and the other negative features of this bill; caps on lifetime medical expenses, pre existing conditions will be charged an outrageous premium, essential services coverage left up to the states, and Medicaid to be gone by 2026, are going to hurt millions of Americans.

My 24 year old son who lives with me, has Down Syndrome. He has medical coverage through the Oregon Health Plan, which is funded by Medicaid monies. What is he going to do if this bill passes and his medical coverage is severely reduced. He has a pre existing condition since birth; how am I supposed to pay for a ridiculously expensive health care plan for him?

And think of this; what about these seniors who live in nursing homes, who cannot afford to live there without Medicaid funding? Is this something YOU would want your family member be faced with? How about if this happened to YOU?

Please do not pass this horrible bill. Americans deserve better than this.

I have a suggestion: let's open healthcare for all Americans by using the same health care plans as Congress, federal employees and retired federal employees. These plans are very cheap because there is a large pool of insured. You cannot say this plan would be "socialism" because there is a wide choice of plans in each state.

So let's look at other options, like the one I suggested, and keep Medicaid for the poor, disabled and aged.

Thank you for reading my email.

Sharon Royer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jon Myers [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson in favor of the bipartisan healthcare bill the Senate HELP Committee was developing. GCHJ would cause tens of millions of people to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities. It would also devastate a number of individual states, necessitate the ground-up creation of disparate state-run health care systems on an infeasible 2-year schedule, and would surely cause severe and lasting damage to the country and to the Republican party should it pass.

Thank you,
Jonathan Myers,
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: joan santoro [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Joan Santoro
Parkland, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matt Snow [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy in NOT for America

This is Matthew Snow and I'm a constituent in 03051.

I had a kidney transplant in 2008. I am concerned for all people battling debilitating disease that they would get priced out of the healthcare they need in order to live.

Graham-Cassidy destroys Medicaid as we know it, guts protections for people with pre-existing conditions and is a potential death sentence for sick and vulnerable Americans.

It is reckless and immoral to ram through such profound changes without regular process and a full CBO score. It is wrong for America and its values.

It's time to support a bipartisan effort to stabilize the ACA exchanges and mandate outreach in order to prevent spikes in premiums and lapses in coverage.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Snow

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian T [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I do not support the The Graham-Cassidy health-care bill. As a millennial in my 30's that is part of the gig economy, the ACA is the only way I will be able to have affordable health care. We need a single payer system. Please stand up to the large corporate interests and work with your colleagues across the aisle to come up with a plan both parties can support that will make sure every American has access to affordable health care. Partisan politics needs to end. Thank you for taking the time to listen to your constituents.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Allen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care

Why do you insist on doing this when it is so obvious that people don't want it?

What are you doing for women who married older men who are now retiring and can get Medicare but the women and children aren't covered ?

Republicans who are working closely with conservative Dems on better plans and policy. Why not invite them to the table since you don't seem to understand how to write policy?

Why do we have to go through this quarterly? Despite media and leadership claims to the contrary, it is in our best interest to have a successful president and Congress/Senate. People are SICK of the obstruction and dirty tricks and you will be primaried.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Scherzinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senators:

Growing up, my family relied on Medicaid for ten years to keep my mother in her assisted living home after a brain aneurysm and a stroke. My three siblings and I were between the ages of 5 and 10 at the time. My father suffered from untreated bipolar disorder. Needless to say, times were tough, and I have no doubt that Medicaid saved our lives. If we had not had the safety net of medical coverage for my mother, I really don't know what would have happened. Where would we have lived? Who would care for our mother? I highly doubt that I would have been able to continue my studies through college and be a productive member of society.

Many families face impossible situations due to unavoidable illness and injury. Having adequate Medicaid coverage for citizens in need (in the absence of universal healthcare insurance) is the only civilized choice for our country.

The current Graham-Cassidy bill is an abomination and highly uncivilized. It is not in the best interest of this nation to strip healthcare coverage from millions of citizens. A bipartisan effort to improve healthcare is the only way forward.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Scherzinger

[REDACTED]
Portland, OR 97206

--
Jennifer Scherzinger
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: GREGORY SANTORO [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Greg Santoro
Parkland, FL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ward Penfold [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

I write to urge you to vote no on any health care bill that permits exclusion or rate hikes for pre-existing conditions, or which permits yearly or lifetime caps. Enacting these policies will literally leave people to die.

Doing so is morally bankrupt. It also profoundly misunderstands the purpose of insurance as well as the American character itself. Insurance as well as our society at its best means everyone does their part so no one has to lay awake at night worrying what they would do if the worst struck their child, their husband, their mother. Allowing those who've had disaster befall them to be left out in the cold: this not only voids the very concept of insurance, it also grotesquely misreads how deeply your constituents value the lives of their fellow Americans.

I am begging you: please do not be the only citizens who would choose to put politics above American lives.

Sincerely,
Ward Penfold

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jake Forsythe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Comments

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is having depression and anxiety, and I do not need to be denied care because of this. It is time for a bipartisan effort to strengthen and protect the Affordable Care Act. We cannot afford to repeal a law that helps so many Americans.

Sincerely, Jacob Forsythe

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rivka Polatnick [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please no Graham-Cassidy bill!!!!

The ACA has been essential for my 30-year-old daughter who lost her job and health coverage and has a pre-existing condition.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jack Henrie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

John R. "Jack" Henrie
[REDACTED]

Suffield, CT 06078-1826
[REDACTED]

September 25, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing today because of my grave concerns with the Graham-Cassidy bill. Passage of this bill would cause great hardship for my family. I am 66 years old, and I have chronic Lyme disease and babesiosis (a tick-borne infection which mimics malaria), along with significant migrating pain and neurological symptoms. These chronic diseases qualified me for disability shortly before reaching full retirement age, and I now receive Social Security. I am fortunate to be covered under my wife's health plan. She also has chronic illnesses including fibromyalgia and arthritis of her knees and hips. In spite of that, she has been able to be treated and is still able to work as a teacher and speech and language pathologist. Our disabled adult son, who lives with us, is covered under my wife's plan, as well. Our monthly medications, if they were not covered under her health plan, would cost thousands of dollars, which we would not be able to afford. As it is, with copays, we are barely making it between my wife's salary and my social security check. If our pre-existing conditions were not covered, we would likely go bankrupt within a year or two. Without her medications, my wife would most likely be unable to work, which would only make things worse for us financially, not to mention the highly diminished quality of life that each of us would be facing.

In addition to my personal concerns for myself and for my family, I am also concerned about the effect that this bill would have on the citizens of our great country. Without a CBO score, we have no way of knowing how many millions of people would lose their health insurance or find it too expensive to continue. I am also concerned that the actual cost to our country will be far more than what we are currently spending. Block grant spending will also take money from states that currently have Medicaid expansion and give it to states that do not, which will cause states to have difficulty continuing it. Over time, this money will be eliminated entirely, causing our poor and disabled to lose their access to healthcare.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would delay holding a vote on Graham-Cassidy until at least such a time as we have the complete information from the CBO. It is not right to vote on a bill that impacts one-sixth of our national budget, as well as the health of the people of our great country, without that information.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Henrie

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimberlee Brillhart [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter's story is not unique, as certain diseases and medical issues do not discriminate based on age, lifestyle, race or income level; she had a grand-mal seizure 6 years ago, 2 days after she turned 16. In the course of determining the cause, an MRI found a small tumor in the base of her brain stem. Benign? Cancerous? We don't really know, as the risk of biopsy outweighs the current benefits of finding out.

That's not what causes the seizures, but there it is now, a pre-existing condition... along with the Epilepsy she was eventually diagnosed as having. It took years, and the ability to change neurologists, to finally get to a cocktail of medications to keep her seizure free (she just passed a year seizure-free, the first since she was diagnosed. To say we are ecstatic is downplaying our relief).

Twenty-two years old, and 2 pre-existing conditions. What do you say to that? Yank away her insurance, or a chance at obtaining insurance that has a reasonable premium? Suck it up, buttercup? No. Every other developed nation has figured out how to provide free and reasonable health coverage for their citizens. We can too.

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

Sincerely, Kimberlee Brillhart

Seattle, WA

Kim Brillhart

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Sloan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments
Attachments: IMG_1325.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Medicaid helped save and helps maintain this little girl's life. My granddaughter.

Theresa Sloan

[REDACTED]
East Wenatchee, WA.
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LINDA [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Revised healthcare bill

I am writing to ask you to say no to the revised Graham-Cassidy - Heller bill. It is shameful to bribe senators to vote yes. You represent all of us not just those in the state that elected you. This bill harms too many Americans and will probably harm people in those states that you are attempting to bribe. We need bipartisan work to fix the ACA.

Do not be bullied by Trump or the Koch brothers.

Linda Kroeger
Coburg Oregon

Sent from Linda K's iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steven Snyder [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Thank you,
Steven Snyder
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ian McCullough [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCHJ Fails to Tackle Federal Employer Health Care Tax Deduction

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

In seeking to create freedom and flexibility for states, the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill doesn't address the single biggest policy that constrains what states can do with regard to healthcare and health insurance: the Federal employer health care tax deduction. As long as health insurance revolves around employment-based group plans, we will be plagued by the market warping effects of principle-agent problems.

If you are all truly committed to bringing down premiums for your constituents, you must find a mechanism by which to remove people's employers as insurance shopping middlemen and facilitate a transition for most people out of the employer-based group market and into the individual market so that they can shop for insurance for themselves.

I'm appending the text of a letter I sent to this Committee's subcommittee on Health Care via U.S. postal service dated July 21, in the event that my suggestions might be of some use.

I strongly recommend that you all vote against the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill as currently written. Unless you tackle the system of employer-sponsored health insurance, the bill simply cannot accomplish the chief goals for which its authors claim to be striving.

Sincerely,
Ian McCullough
San Mateo, CA 94403

.....
APPENDIX: TEXT OF LETTER FROM IAN MCCULLOUGH DATED JULY 21, 2017

Dear Congressional Committee Members,

My wife Lara and I buy health insurance in the individual market for ourselves and our now 5-year-old daughter Alexandra. Prior to the Affordable Care Act, both Lara and I had been rejected for individual market insurance due to preexisting conditions. After the Affordable Care Act, we ran into issues finding health care providers who actually accepted the individual market plans offered by what are very large and notable insurance companies. We got ensnared in the so-called "narrow network problem." We are thankful to be in a stable position right now as members of Kaiser Permanente, but recognize that there are Americans out there who are still struggling greatly. I don't want us to go back to where we were in the intertwined health insurance & health care markets and I don't believe we can stay where we are either.

I've written to my Congressional delegates — Congresswoman Speier, Senator Harris, and Senator Feinstein — with my concerns and suggestions and have faith that they will follow through. I've also been in touch with my state legislators to address issues specific to my state, but any developments and innovations in the states are going to occur within the context of federal policy. I see how contentious and difficult forging a forward path on health care for the nation has proven. As such, I also felt compelled to directly contact you all on the committees. With the understanding that there is lot of stakeholders who want to go in a lot of different directions, here is an approach I see that might offer enough to everyone to get a workable consensus:

1. **Eliminate the Employer Health Care Tax Deduction for direct purchases of group health insurance plans by employers.** This can't be allowed anymore if we are to move forward in any direction. This policy obstructs progress on proposed public programs just as much as it obstructs more truly free market initiatives. The principal-agent problems caused by this policy are what distorts everything else.

2. **Change rules to allow insurance premiums to be paid from Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and lift the limit on tax deductible employer contributions to HSAs to the current threshold for the "Cadillac Tax" on high priced health-care plans.** I believe that is \$10,200 for individuals and \$27,500 for families. That way, employers' cost of employee compensation stays stable and they don't suddenly lose the expected tax benefits on that part of employee compensation. The reason that I pick these numbers is because they are already established thresholds.

3. **Transition all people who are accustomed to receiving group health insurance as an employment benefit to purchasing health insurance in the individual market.** Given that the PPACA-mandated public exchanges exist and operate and use the same vocabulary as employers like "Open Enrollment," it is conceivable to put together outreach programs that would get people used to signing up for health insurance with their employer to simply switch the place that they sign up for health insurance.

a. As a matter of compensation fairness, an important thing we have going for us that the ACA required employers to report the value of health care premiums on W2s. This means that everyone now has several years of documentation of the value of their

compensation. That can be used as a baseline for establishing HSA contribution levels. I envision that there would be a requirement that employer's payments into the updated HSAs would match (or exceed) the employer expenditures on premiums in either the year of the legislation's passage or the year preceding the legislation taking effect — whichever is greater. (In other words, if the bill passes in 2017 but the transition doesn't take full effect until 2020, employers wouldn't be able to spend the intervening years gutting existing benefits in order to have a lower baseline for the HSA contributions.) Furthermore, I'd envision the HSA contributions being subject to the same laws and regulations as salaries/wages, meaning that employer contributions couldn't be arbitrarily cut from one year to the next without employee consent.

b. Pointing people to the public exchanges would be an obvious default, but individual market shopping (backed by employer HSA contributions) could happen through any number of mechanisms. Health insurance companies could still work with employers and/or labor unions to offer discounted rates as a benefit for employees who choose to sign up directly with the insurer. Employers and/or labor unions could expand that benefit further by offering employees access to private exchanges (I understand that Walgreens and Sears do this for their employees already and IBM and Time Warner do this for their retirees), individuals could work with a private broker, or individuals so-interested could just shop on their own based on who their preferred health care provider actually works with. Anyone who fails to enroll themselves should be automatically enrolled via the public exchange into a qualified Bronze-level plan unless they explicitly opt-out with a valid reason.

4. Consolidate the administrative mechanisms for transmitting Medicaid funding from the Federal Government to State Governments into the administrative mechanisms for transmitting ACA subsidies for low-income Americans to private insurers. While there is much I don't understand to with regard to the complexities of the Medicaid funding formula, it is conceivable to simplify the way that money flows out of the United States Treasury into both private AND public insurance programs. In this conception, Medicaid programs would be full-premium-subsidy public insurance programs (with a combination of Federal and State funding) for qualifying low-income Americans. This potential bureaucracy reduction is likely to have some level of appeal to Republican policymakers. I also have no objection to the premium subsidies being accounted for as tax credits, provided that they are operationally the same to individuals and

families relying on them. (Note here that we are strictly talking about Medicaid. I think Medicare is best left untouched right now.)

5. **Provided that requirements for universal coverage are met under all three of these approaches**, enable and allow individual States to do one of three things with their Medicaid programs without the need for waivers:

a. Have Medicaid enrollment be restricted to qualifying low income citizens — just as now.

b. Allow states to open up their Medicaid programs for buy-in from any state resident who wants the presumably lower rates with partial or even no subsidy. States choosing to do this would effectively be making their Medicaid programs a public option. Many States already allow people on disability to buy into Medicaid. I know that the Nevada Legislature has been advancing along this path (most recently with their AB 374) would expect California to pursue this in the nearer term (perhaps as a stepping stone to a statewide single payer program).

c. If so inclined, sunset their publicly-run Medicaid program and enroll low-income residents into qualified Bronze-level private insurance plans that offer some acceptable number of health care providers & hospitals within some acceptable distance of where the enrollee lives. The explicit understanding would be that the households who would otherwise be qualified for Medicaid wouldn't have any undue premium liability with the insurer and that the state government would be legally on the hook to guarantee that. I understand that Florida and Mississippi already do this, that Iowa has been pursuing this, and that North Carolina, Illinois, and Oklahoma are exploring this.

Here is what I see as the key benefits to this approach that can draw in divergent interests:

- It creates full health insurance portability when people find themselves changing jobs or unemployed.
- By trading the Federal tax deduction for direct purchase of insurance by employers for higher HSA limits plus the ability to pay premiums, it creates greater latitude for states that are so inclined to

either pursue stronger public health insurance & health care programs or to better facilitate private market competition.

- It gets a lot more individuals truly shopping and utilizing the power of consumer choice to help push down both premiums and care costs.
- It frees businesses nationwide from the operational & administrative burden of having to select, purchase, and maintain insurance coverage for employees while still extending the tax benefit on that portion of compensation. This has the additional benefit of removing an obstacle to small business growth, new business starts, and all of the accompanying job creation.

I appreciate all of your service on behalf of your respective constituents and of the American people as a whole. There are competing agendas and competing strategies to pursue each agenda. Either one way, the other way, or multiple ways, I strongly believe that we need to continue to pursue universal health care accessibility & affordability and that universal insurance coverage is the best way to pursue that. The politics of that, however, are rendered exponentially more challenging because not all citizens and stakeholders aren't perceiving the same set of costs and experiencing the same impacts. While employers can still be involved in arranging for group discounts if insurance companies want to pursue them, it is imperative that we get employers out of the process of directly purchasing insurance for their employees.

Sincerely,

Ian McCullough

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Scallan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Personal story -- Graham/Cassidy

I care for 4 people with disabilities: My son, Kevin who has Down syndrome, Autism, a congenital heart defect, my husband who has early onset Alzheimer's and my 2 elderly parents. My mother has mobility issues and my father has Diabetes, has had several heart attacks and is now showing possible signs of dementia as well. In addition to this, I have my own business that keeps me working full time assisting people with disabilities and complex health needs in get the care they need. I know and understand the complex Medicaid system as a participant, advocate, and someone who has been working with Medicaid health care systems and people with disabilities for almost 11 years now.

Graham-Cassidy will kill my family and many other people I know in Louisiana. Yes, I am from Louisiana! Home of Senator Cassidy. There isn't a single person I have talked to in Louisiana, Republican or Democrat, that thinks Senator Cassidy's health care plan will do one ounce of good for Louisiana or its people, in fact, we all know this will hurt us and our state—significantly hurt us.

Our family and most in Louisiana cannot afford Health Savings Accounts. We are a state of poor people. We can barely pay for what we need now. We had high risk pools in Louisiana before and there were waiting lists and the plans were too costly for most people. We have already had to cut our Medicaid program as much as possible with as little impact on actual services as possible, due to our economic state. All of us... every single member of my family has several pre-existing conditions. Under this plan, we will be relegated to paying out of pocket for whatever care we can afford.

When confronted about the hellish damage his plan will wreak on Louisiana, Senator Cassidy replied to Louisiana families desperate to keep their children and grandparents alive with adequate health care, "Well, I'm not responsible for what the states do." THAT is his callous attitude toward his own constituents. Just think what he thinks about the rest of the country.

Senator Cassidy knows his plan will cause Louisiana to take a major hit in its Medicaid program. He knows Louisiana, like many other states would have no recourse but to eliminate optional services for people with disabilities and others in order to meet the egregious Medicaid requirements he proposes. **He KNOWS that Medicaid's developmental disability waivers and elderly and adult waivers are CRITICAL to saving lives and SAVING MONEY FOR LOUISIANA'S MEDICAID PROGRAM.** He. Knows. This. He knows it because we have been telling him at every single turn. Louisiana residents have been banging on his door trying to talk to him, tagging him in Facebook posts, commenting on his Facebook live videos, sending him emails over and over and over. He. Knows. This.

A cap or block grant on Medicaid in Louisiana will not only kill people, it will devastate our economy. For every rural primary care physician practicing in a community with a local hospital, 26.3 jobs are created and \$1.4 million in income. *National Center for Rural Healthy Works, October 2016.* That income figure only takes into account medical personnel income. If families are unable to afford any health care, unable to get Medicaid or get what they need in Medicaid and unable to save for health care, patients will no longer see doctors. The demand for health care will appear to have dried up and cause greater exodus of medical professionals from our state and the profession in general. This will devastate Louisiana's economy.

The way to reduce care for the sick, elderly and individuals with disabilities is NOT to cut their care. It's to provide them all the care they need up front to keep them out of hospitals they can't pay for and out of nursing homes which are very costly. This bill is nothing more than a death sentence.

PLEASE VOTE NO TO GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Karen Scallan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Destrehan, Louisiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheryl Kessler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

The ACA is working and can continue to do so with bi-partisan improvements.

Sheryl Kessler
Tacoma, WA
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeff De Cagna [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A death sentence for my Mom

TWIMC:

Graham-Cassidy will be a death sentence for my Mom who lives in a nursing home and depends on Medicare and Medicaid.

Shame on Senators Graham and Cassidy for co-sponsoring this monstrous legislation. I'm especially horrified with "Dr. Cassidy" who purports to care about human life and then supports a bill like this one. What is wrong with you doctor?

Instead of acting like a couple of right-wing hacks, I suggest the senators sit down with Democrats to develop legislation that can strengthen healthcare in this country, instead of working to destroy it.

Jeff De Cagna

--

Jeff De Cagna
Reston, VA

(E) [REDACTED]

(W) [REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do what you know to be best for the people

Please do not allow Graham/Cassidy to pass. It is fiscally flawed and an inhumane death sentence to millions.

Thank you.
Jan van diver

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carson Kreitzer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Committee:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelance writer, with asthma as a pre-existing condition. I have never had health insurance provided through an employer, and prior to the Affordable Care Act, my monthly insurance premium was often higher than my rent. I lived in terror of ever missing a payment, and being unable to get insurance again, because of my pre-existing condition. This is completely unsustainable. My boyfriend and I are both freelance, and without the protections of the ACA, one medical crisis would bankrupt either one of us.

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

We are the only advanced nation with staggering numbers of bankruptcies caused by medical crises. We need to fix this. The ACA is drastically improving the conditions and lives of millions of Americans. We do not want to go backwards.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Carson Kreitzer
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nina Corwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Public Testimony on Graham-Cassidy Bill –

As self-employed people aged 60, my husband and I rely on individual health insurance, The Graham Cassidy bill, if passed, will allow insurance companies to dramatically raise costs for people my age. The potential costs associated with pre-existing conditions will be prohibitive. Between epilepsy and a chronic progressive disease affecting my hearing, God knows what will become of our retirement savings.

But my husband and I are middle class. As a social worker, I worked with people dependent on Public Aid and Medicaid. What's left of the safety net is on the chopping block with the Graham-Cassidy bill. This is not how a powerful and wealthy democracy should be treating the most vulnerable of its citizenry.

It breaks my heart to see the disregard for the legislative and democratic process as established by the Constitution taking place under the majority. The citizens of this nation are made up of and represented by TWO parties. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Nina Corwin, MA, LCSW
[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60605

Nina Corwin

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.
—Lao Tzu—

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Modery [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comments - Graham-Cassidy

Monday, September 25, 2017, hearing of the United States Senate Committee on Finance
re: Public comment on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill
Position: Opposed to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill
Name: Amanda Modery
Address: 16209 NE 2nd ST Bellevue, WA 98008

Comments: My older brother, who has Down syndrome, lives and works in the community thanks to Medicaid! Travis loves the independence and camaraderie of living in his adult family home, of living away from our parents as most other guys his age (mid-30s) do. His social calendar is full, with outings to the local mall for dinner or movies and sports at the local parks & rec department. He works two jobs, one for the library system and one at a grocery store. Our parents are in their late 60s/early 70s and the fact that my brother has a stable living environment and job provide them (and me) peace of mind as they get older.

Travis LOVES his home, his job, and his life. All these would be in jeopardy without the support of Medicaid. He needs personal care support to live in the community and he needs a job coach to help maintain his jobs. Medicaid provides these things for my brother. 11 million people with disabilities rely on Medicaid for critical services that help them live and participate in their community. Any bill that cuts, caps, or "block grants" Medicaid jeopardizes the safety net for people with disabilities. Please consider the effect on people with disabilities and their families and oppose the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

Amanda Modery

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: L G [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Leslie Grantz
Lake Linden, MI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Hickey [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re: Comments for the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: Hickey-Comments-Graham-Cassidy-Hearing.doc

To the Committee - To ensure I'm following all the rules, I've attached a separate document containing my email below. I will also be sending a hard copy by U.S. mail. - Maureen Hickey

From: Maureen Hickey [REDACTED]
To: "GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov" <GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:10 PM
Subject: Graham-Cassidy impact

To the Senate Finance Committee -

I am very concerned about the potential passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill, which I believe will be potentially devastating to many Americans like me. Not only will it pull funding away from important health resources, such as smaller local hospitals, it will enable individual states to make decisions that unfairly disadvantage Americans from one state to the next.

I was diagnosed in 2000 with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), an inherited disorder that causes a progressive thickening of the heart muscle. Over time HCM will make my heart less efficient. It can also cause arrhythmias that can lead to sudden and fatal cardiac arrest. HCM is also expensive. I need to see a cardiologist annually and have regular followup tests. I also have an implanted defibrillator. That costs \$25,000 for the device alone, and it does not last forever. The battery wears down after 5-7 years and it has to be surgically replaced (I'm currently on my third). My future likely includes daily medication and additional heart surgeries, maybe even a transplant.

Fortunately, my workplace provides good insurance; but until the Affordable Care Act I lived in fear of losing my job and being unable to find another one – and losing coverage of my pre-existing condition as a result. The ACA's elimination of lifetime caps also meant I could relax a bit about my financial future and hope to retire while I'm still reasonably healthy.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would remove that assurance, throwing me - and others like me - back into uncertainty.

The Affordable Care Act is not perfect, but it is what we have. Let's fix it and not trash it.

Thank you.

Maureen Hickey
[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60645

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Sloan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

I am adamantly opposed to repealing and/or replacing the current health care law. My personal story is about my grand daughter who was born with a chromosomal deletion. She was diagnosed at birth with chromosome 18q distal deletion. She was born with a cleft palate, hearing and vision impairments, and muscle/skeletal disabilities. She is now 7 years old attending a special classroom in public school but still wearing diapers and drinking a bottle. She is non verbal speech impaired.

Without medicaid services, my daughter and her husband would never be able to afford the myriad of life saving services this child requires. Medicaid helps provide speech, occupational, physical therapy. She requires physician care for sleep apnea, cranial facial treatments, orthopedic surgeries and many other services. Medicaid provides these things. This is only one of the many reasons we need single payer health care in this country. Why the Republican party continues to waste tax dollars on trying to eliminate the so called " Obamacare" is unfathomable to me. Can the people in Congress put the American Public's needs ahead of their own careers? Can they stop working to implement tax cuts for the wealthiest in the country and come up with a plan for the common good?

I will be sending a photo of my granddaughter in another email.

Theresa Sloan

[REDACTED]
East Wenatchee, WA.
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Lowman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill

Dear Senators,

The country needs to address health care access and insurance, but the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill is not the way to do it. This bill allows states the option to deny insurance coverage due to pre-existing conditions and can limit lifetime costs. How do you tell an 18 year old who developed leukemia at 14 that she's maxed out on her insurance coverage and paying for future treatments will have to come from her pocket? Does she have to die because insurance won't be there to help her and she can't afford to pay for treatment herself? What about the child who was born two months prematurely and racked up hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical treatment before his first birthday but is a healthy and thriving teenager now? Will he be denied coverage because of his pre-existing conditions? How many more people have to declare medical bankruptcy? Why does the woman have to choose between treatment for her cancer or having electricity in her home and eating dinner? Except for the wealthy few in this country, we're all just one major medical diagnosis away from poverty and bankruptcy.

If we won't look at the horrendous human impact of this bill, let's look at some economic results from guaranteed coverage. It seems like pro-business politicians would support guaranteed coverage. Think of how many people are currently working at jobs solely for the health insurance benefit, yet dreaming of starting their own business. If those people know they will have still health insurance even when they quit, they can start those businesses. These new businesses can develop more jobs and those people have created vacancies at their old positions that other people can fill. I'm a small business owner who made that leap from working for a large company to being a sole proprietor and know what it's like to go through the individual market when buying health insurance.

Please support American citizens and vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. Thank you,
Angela Lowman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanne Pritchard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Your impact to MY healthcare

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would have an immensely negative impact on me and my family. I am a breast cancer survivor (diagnosed at age 34). I am also the primary insurance holder for my family. This bill would make it near impossible to maintain coverage for me and my family. Essentially it is a death sentence for me as I would either not be able to afford coverage or not able to get coverage due to my pre-existing condition. Additionally, I'm close to or have exceeded my lifetime cap. I need insurance in order to get necessary follow up care and ensure that my family has access to healthcare. Please consider the impact of this bill on REAL people. It's not politics- it's my life.

Joanne Pritchard

[REDACTED]
Fresno, CA 93730

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Tyler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G-C hearing

Good morning,

Please take note of this citizen's objections to the Graham-Cassidy proposal. In addition to its contents --which are cruel and unworthy of us-- I object to the intent to rush the bill through without bipartisan collaboration. The immediate impact on the healthcare ecosystem would be followed by economic volatility or ruin for businesses and individuals. And think of the stifling of entrepreneurship! Who can afford to take risks when health of self or family is at stake?

Please kill this bill. ACA isn't perfect, everyone knows that. But this is not how we get to the next stage.

Thank you.

R Tyler
Mass D-5

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Perry Greene [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Andrew Wax
Mount Laurel, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: C L [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Blatant bribery

Is this what it has come to? Blatant bribery of senators who have thus far been holdouts? And to think the GOP considers themselves the family value party, the party of prayer. Their unethical behavior has escalated to a place that is repulsive. They are immoral, and lack character. They should be absolutely ashamed of themselves. And their colleagues should start speaking up.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ron James <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: markwarner@senate.gov
Subject: Graham Health Bill

Please vote "NO" on this bill and allow the A.C.A. to remain. There are so many, many people in this nation who need health care and have difficulty getting it. I'm talking about our citizens, not illegal aliens. Again, please vote "NO" on the Graham Health Bill and allow the A.C.A. to remain in place.

R. James

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Nancy Hline

[REDACTED]
Portland OR 97211

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: laurie [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH

My son, Steven, was born twenty years ago with Down syndrome. He is a treasure in MANY, MANY people's lives! He works two jobs and is very much looking forward to having his own apartment!! If this new health care bill goes through, he will never get his own apartment and be as independent as he wishes...this will kill his spirit!!

Through erroneous judgments in the social security department, he lost his medicaid health care last year....it was a horrid year! Not only did his health go down, (I could not afford the doctor bills) but MY health declined because of the stress. I can not imagine how many healthy, productive people (without medicaid reliance) this would negatively impact! This proposal would make our entire culture go down hill, and my own precious son would be institutionalized ~~ absolutely the most horrid thought I can imagine. Please vote against this atrocity of a "health CARE" bill!

Laureen Chagnon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA

Please do not destroy the ACA. As a nurse, I am well aware how disjointed and inadequate our health care already is. If the ACA is dismantled, it will only result in more suffering as millions will lose health insurance. Let's move in the opposite direction to single payer, Medicare for all!

Kathryn Guta, RN, CDE
San Francisco 94131

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: lynn carawan [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act. My husband and I both have pre-existing conditions and it would not be affordable to pay for our medications that we need to take on a daily basis.

I also think about the fact that my nephew was born like Jimmy Kimmel's son with a heart condition. He has required many surgeries over his short lifetime and my sister would be living out of a box had it not been for her insurance.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Donna Carawan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Connally's Email [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care "Graham-Cassidy" Bill

My wife and I are retired. We live on a fixed income in Colorado near our two sons and our two grandchildren. We worked hard all our lives moving in a corporate job every three years for our adult lives. We worked and saved a little nest egg we can live on. But, now your GOP health care bill promises to reduce taxes for the rich and the insurance companies while increasing our health care costs, putting great pressure on our retirement budget.

My wife has a rare pre-existing condition called Addison's Disease. This will increase our health care premiums and deductibles considerably based on everything I am reading. Please try to consider that most of America would like you to just improve the current ACA bill so it just works better. Almost all health care organizations like the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, many health experts and most health insurance organizations, etc are against this bill.

The health care industry is one-sixth of the US economy and most experts say this bill will really screw up our economy. Remember people vote their pocket book and you will own this train wreck for many years to come. Goodbye GOP majority and many of you will lose your jobs. There is no amount of financial backing from the Koch brothers that will save you. Good luck.

Sincerely,
A proud voting American patriot

Chris Connally

[REDACTED]
cell: [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phyllis Langsdorf [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Please do not vote yes. This bill will hurt millions of Americans. Vote NO

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Madland [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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. Please get on the right side of history and stop this madness. You need to seriously act as the leaders you were elected to be. More importantly, this bill has nothing to do with healthcare or the ability of our economy to remain viable with a healthy and productive work force.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration,

Kathryn Madland
Lynnwood, Washington
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sallie Ross [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Personal statement re GCH

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

On January 19th, 2014, I had a stroke. I was 47 years old, and it was the second stroke I had in my forties. This first one was small; this one was big. I was snuggling on the couch with my two daughters (ages 12 and 14 at the time) watching a movie. My face felt numb, and when I spoke to my children, my voice was so slurred that we all felt a collective surge of panic. My older daughter was so frightened that she called 199 instead of 911. She finally called 911, and thankfully, as she desperately spoke with the 911 operator, my husband came home. I remember each detail of that evening, and especially my terrible fear coupled with my fierce desire to protect my children from their own fear. It was just as people describe tragedy: in an instant everything had changed.

The memory of that night is haunting, and I live each moment of my life feeling as if the sword of Damocles dangles above my head. I have never smoked or taken drugs or been a heavy drinker. I am a healthy weight and have always been athletic. None of that mattered. For reasons not even my doctors know, I was stricken. What I know to be true is that each of us has a sword of Damocles above our heads, whether we know it or not. We are all fragile members of this human family. And when we see this clearly, we live a more compassionate and moral life.

The current attempt to jam through legislation repealing the ACA before budget reconciliation ends is completely immoral and undemocratic. The push for Graham-Cassidy is selfish, hyper-partisan, dishonorable, politics at its worst. There have been problems with our health insurance system for a LONG TIME. I am now 51 years old, and have carried insurance my entire adult life - even when I was in graduate school and it was very difficult to do so. After the birth of my first child, I left work to stay home and raise her. My husband was self-employed at the time. Our insurance rates went up year after year. When my children were six and eight years old, we could no longer absorb the annual premium hikes and we were priced out of the market. **I was forced to return to work simply in order to afford health insurance.** The issues with the cost and access to health insurance are not a product of the ACA (as partisans falsely claim.) These issues have existed for decades, and those in power simply lacked the political will to help the citizens of this nation.

For the past 3.5 years, my husband and I have been paying off medical debt from my strokes. We are lucky to have insurance through my husband's work, and I am so fortunate to have recovered fully and to have returned to work. But I know in the blink of an eye that could all change. A loss of insurance would financially devastate us. One more catastrophic illness would financially devastate us. We are paying our debts, we live a healthy lifestyle, but we are **vulnerable**. I paid into the health insurance pool all through my 20's and my 30's and my 40's; I paid into the system when I was healthy and then I got sick. I played by the rules and did what I was

supposed to do. But the rules do not seem to be made to help or protect regular people. The CEO of my health insurance company, Stephen Hemsley, made 17.8 million in 2016, 20 million in 2015, and 66 million in 2014. THIS is the problem. As Franciscan friar, Richard Rohr states, "Francis (of Assisi) knew there is enough for everyone's need, but not for everyone's greed."

I am losing faith in this system, and losing faith in politicians being honorable, fair, decent, and honest in the discharge of their duties. Healthcare is not a commodity. It is a moral imperative. The "healthcare" system is structured to take care of CEO's more than patients. This is the truth, and those who deny it are being dishonest and immoral.

Graham-Cassidy is just another legislative attempt prop up a system of greed, not a system of healthcare for our citizens. Politicians act as if people are disposable, and as if any suffering that befalls them is somehow their fault. This is antithetical to the teachings of Christ, and it is not lost on me that most of the politicians who are feverishly trying to cram this despicable bill through the senate call themselves "Christian." NO. None of this is what Christ taught. I spent most of my career working for hospices. I have seen death over and over. I have seen children die. I have seen sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers, husbands, and wives die. You will die. I will die. How we take care of one another matters. How we help those in times of need matters. How we work to help those who suffer matters. All of this is what Christ taught. The ego-driven striving of partisan politics is not God's will. This bill is the product of people whose hearts have become conformed to this world. We can and should take care of one another. Reach across the aisle and truly do Christ's bidding. Find a path forward that takes care of people, not profits.

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

The choice is now yours: to pledge allegiance to your party, or to pledge allegiance to the moral and compassionate teachings of Christ. Do you choose a self-serving political platform as your foundation, or the foundation Christ has taught?

Sincerely, Sallie Ross

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

- *We NEED to know if we will even have health insurance
- *We NEED lower premiums
- *We NEED to change our policy every year to one with less coverage and a higher deductible AND we still have trouble affording it...we have read there will be a 62% increase in 2018
- *We NEED and depend on the subsidies from the government so we can afford health insurance
- *We NEED insurance that allows for pre-existing conditions
- *We NEED our government to work with our pharmaceutical companies to reduce the cost of medications- we had an increase of 67% this year
- *WE NEED YOUR HELP! OUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT!**

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Arbuckle [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Lori Arbuckle
Alexandria VA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Becky Bailey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing, 25 September 2017

I urge your opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill presently before this committee.

I am 69 years of age and have experienced three bouts of cancer in the past 25 years, the first of which threw me into bankruptcy in 2002. From that time until I turned 62, I had NO health insurance and prayed that I would not again be visited by cancer. But, that was not to be. In 2010 and again in 2015 I was diagnosed with two more, unrelated, cancers requiring surgery, chemotherapy and radiation.

In 2010 I learned of the Women's Breast and Cervical Cancer legislation enacted by the Clinton Administration. Without it, I would have surely perished. The next year, I applied for Medicare.

Yet, again in 2015, I was diagnosed with a non-small cell carcinoma of the lung, also requiring surgery and chemotherapy. By that time I was also insured by my state's (South Carolina) Medicaid program.

As of this writing, I am gratefully cancer-free. However, as any cancer survivor will tell you, there is always a watchful eye, though optimistic, always aware there could be another unfriendly diagnosis.

As both a senior citizen and a cancer survivor with no dependents or spouse, I must rely upon my years of employment and both Medicare and Medicaid contributions for my health care.

Graham-Cassidy will gut both of these programs and will leave me and untold millions of Americans with no healthcare. Though I am old, there are those just starting out in their lives, those with disabilities, and those like me who, for no real fault of their own, have been left financially unable to take care of their medical needs.

Passage of this legislation will be ruinous to us. It is time single-payer, universal health care for all Americans is instituted. Healthcare should be a right for all Americans. Not just a privilege for the few.

Sincerely,

Rebekah E. Bailey


Columbia, SC 29203

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peggy Carey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee Members,

I write to ask you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill that would repeal the Affordable Care Act and leave millions of people in this country without good quality health care, or even adequate care. My adult children rely on the Affordable Care Act because they have pre-existing conditions that might make them entirely ineligible for health insurance or have them paying premiums that would take food from their family table. My parents became eligible for Medicaid at the end of their long lives and several years of paying for nursing home care. The combination of Medicare and Medicaid made all the difference during their last years. We need to sustain the Medicaid program, not cut it.

We need a bi-partisan effort to make the ACA better and more affordable, not another draconian attempt to further disadvantage those who are ill and with few resources. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Margaret Best

[REDACTED]
Middlefield, CT 06455

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laura Myers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

My friends and family rely on quality, affordable health care and because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will take away health care from millions of Americans, including many of the college students I work with who rely on Medicaid or on health care accessed through the exchange.

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

Sincerely,

Laura Myers
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ruth Freer, <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REJECT GRAHAM-CASSIDY

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story, like the stories of millions of other families, recalls a time when I nearly lost my house when my 26 year old with pre-existing conditions was unable to buy health insurance at any price.

Government health insurance is good enough for Congress. It is good enough for seniors. The rest of us should have the security of knowing that getting sick should not bankrupt the citizens of this nation.

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

Sincerely,

Ruth Freer

Highland Park IL 60035

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Iker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Dear Senators:

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that you will be discussing on Monday.

I am a California resident who has purchased healthcare on the independent market since the late 1990s. It was a difficult and expensive process until the Affordable Care Act was passed.

To cover our family of 4, we purchased an HMO plan every year that would include prescription coverage, maternity care (just in case something unplanned happened with one of our daughters), and a reasonable co-pay for in-patient hospital stays.

We were dropped from coverage more than once by insurers who no longer would cover a particular allergy medication that was prescribed for my husband, or denied one of my daughters coverage because a neurologist had prescribed an anti-anxiety medicine for her which she wasn't taking (and hadn't filled the RX).

To top this all off - our premiums were **\$3,000.00 per month**. That is \$36,000.00 per year for 4 people.

Since the ACA, our premiums have dropped significantly. Our daughters have also grown up during this time and we are no longer covering them on our insurance plan. Even so, our premiums are now \$1,300/month for a silver plan for the 2 of us. We are both over 60, but not yet eligible for Medicare.

I'm very concerned that the Graham-Cassidy bill will not prevent some states or some insurers from discriminating against people with pre-existing conditions. At this point in my life, I don't think I know anyone who doesn't have a pre-existing condition. It might be allergies, or high blood pressure, or simply that they are female, but I don't see how any of you could possibly think you are helping Americans by allowing this type of bill to pass.

I would ask each of you to consider this bill and any others that may come up by asking yourself this question: Would I be happy with this bill if you had to abide by it? Or if your mother had to?

Thank you,

Cindy Iker
West Hills, CA 91307

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzi Beaumont [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

As a small business entrepreneur, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

As a divorcing woman, I am fortunately protected by COBRA for 36, monthes, so I will continue to benefit from my husband's health care plan, though the cost will double. After this period, I'll be forced to purchase insurance in the market. I'm in my late 50s and will almost certainly have pre-existing conditions by then. The uncertainty created by efforts to repeal the ACA has a great impact on my future.

My sister is disabled, and has spent her retirement savings while waiting years for a disability hearing for SSDI. During much of this time, she was uninsured and also uninsurable due to preexisting conditions. When the ACA came online, I supported her by purchasing insurance on the ACA marketplace. She has many major health issues, and would not have been able to get insurance at all had it not been for the ACA.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA.

Thank you,

Suzanne Beaumont

Chatsworth, Georgia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angel Mahaney <[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.

Angel Mahaney
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Phoenix, Arizona 85008

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue LONG [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.

Sue LONG
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lohrville, Iowa 51453

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Voight [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.

James Voight
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Diego, CA, California 92109

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Stevens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

To whom this may concern,

My experience with the Affordable Healthcare Act was initially slightly rocky, however I can say that today I am happy with what I have. We retired two years ago moving to Tennessee to help care for my 96 year old mother in law who still lives in her own home. I am too young to technically be able to retire (58yrs old), however my wife is retirement age and able to take Social Security plus draws on her pension from 30 years of teaching, which keeps us fed and a roof over our heads.

When first signing up for the ACA, it was challenging because I did retire from 34 years with the same company and moving from Wisconsin to Tennessee. It took many letters back and forth for everyone to be on the same page, but ultimately got onto an insurance program (United Healthcare) and was paying about \$130 per month. For whatever reason United Healthcare decided not to stay within the ACA and my insurance was discontinued, and this year rolled over into something offered by Blue Cross & Blue Shield and now my premium is totally covered as I have zero income. I do not see any of the current plans that would come close to offering anything like this at all.

Best regards,
Charles Stevens

[REDACTED]
Crossville, TN 38558

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mandy Burrell Booth [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

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

Comment:

On behalf of my family, friends, and tens of millions like us, I urge the Senate to reject this abominable bill proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy. Its is driven by big-money campaign donors and special interest groups that don't care about the systemic turmoil and personal grief that will result from this short-sighted legislation. QUIT PLAYING GAMES WITH OUR HEALTH AND LIVES.

Signed,
Amanda Burrell
[REDACTED] Chicago IL 60643

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Abby Tusing [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA, including the exchanges and protections against prohibitive costs and exclusions based on preexisting conditions has allowed a number of my very own immediate family members and friends to get coverage that they could not have received otherwise. I want a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, **NOT** repeal it.

Sincerely,

Abby Tusing

Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Cunningham [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:16 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL

Sirs/Madams:

I'm writing to voice grave concern over the proposed Graham Cassidyt healthcare legislation.

It will de-stabilize the American economy, allow insurers to fleece citizens with preexisting conditions, and decimate Medicaid, which is the most successful and cost-effective part of the ACA.

It will leave tens of millions of Americans without coverage and cause chaos, perhaps turn the US into a third world country within a few years.

I hope that enough Republican senators will understand the significant and irreparable dangers of this bill and vote no this week,

Sincerely yours,

--
lisa herman cunningham [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Del Pozzo-Dwyer, Melissa [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My personal story with pre existing conditions will greatly be in despair. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Melissa Dwyer
Mineola NY 11501

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Mott [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

you guys know that alabama has the most corrupt state government in the nation. please, please, please do not put my healthcare in the hands of those yahoos.

michael mott
[REDACTED]
andalusia al 36420

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kraig Carroll [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No vote!

Ladies and gentlemen of the US congress.

All I want heath care wise is to have the same medical access that all of you who are supposed to be working for me, have that I currently do not have.

Sincerely,
Kraig L. Carroll
Vet. '66-'69

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve Wendt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:58 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.

Steve Wendt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chico, California 95928

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Marsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:58 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.

Marion Marsh
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Elm grove, Wisconsin 53122

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Butche [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.

Mike Butche

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Aurora, Illinois 60504

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M Lehman [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.

M Lehman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: margie Arikawe [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.

margie Arikawe

[REDACTED]
no thanks

little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aaron Davis [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:55 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.

Aaron Davis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Norwich, Connecticut 06360-5919

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dan Cantor [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Dan Cantor
[REDACTED]

Withheld

GLENDALE, California 91203

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jaime Nahman, [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Jaime Nahman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Topanga, California 90290

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Sally Brown
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Branford Town of, Connecticut 06405

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Koonlaba [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Amanda Koonlaba
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

MS, Mississippi 38866

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Burdick [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Dennis Burdick
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53220

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samantha Solomon [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Obscured in the Graham-Cassidy bills 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.

It is unsettling too that Graham-Cassidy has amounted to one hearing. As opposed to 2009 when the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, received dozens of hearings.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy for numerous reasons. Even major insurers have raised objection.

Above all else, healthcare is a far too complex matter to fast track without due consideration for long-term impact.

Samantha Solomon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Spokane, Washington 99205

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Lakatòs [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Marion Lakatos
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Croton, New York 10520

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Sussek [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:52 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.

Mark Sussek
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Van Nuys , California 91404

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Blue [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:53 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.

Cindy Blue
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Northbrook, Illinois 60062-2910

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chuck and Valerie Morehead [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare vote

Do not vote to repeal ACA. I and my family depend on affordable healthcare not restricted by ridiculous pre existing conditions where rape victims are considered to have pre existing conditions and cant afford counseling much needed after such a heinous act. This is only one of the many 100s of pre existing conditions that will make it impossible for millions to get decent affordable healthcare.

If you vote to repeal ACA and replace it with nothing which is exactly what youre doing if you vote to repeal I guarantee you that I and my friends and family and their friends and family etc etc will make it our lifes work to see you lose your congressional and senate seats. Possibly before election because fraud will get you removed early. Votes of no confidence will spur recall elections. If you are witless enough to ignore your constituents best interests then your constituents will use any means necessary to remove you from office and or make sure you are voted out....by the opposite party. The best thing you can do is distance yourself from the GOP. They have proved themselves not only corrupt (aligning with Trump proves corruption and idiocy). Alliance with Pence, Ryan and Mc Connell proves the above and religious extremism that is beyond sickening and also corrupt. Show you have your voters interests at heart and keep your jobs by voting against repeal of ACA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jared Stein [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy is an act of terrorism

Hi senator. The Graham Cassidy bill will result in coverage loss for 32 million Americans. If a woman wants to get pregnant, she'll have to pay \$17,000 more. Get cancer? You'll have to pay out \$140,000. No protections for preexisting conditions or essential health benefits. This is an act of terrorism.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice Hoff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Blumenthal, Dick (Blumenthal); Senator (Murphy)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill - PLEASE STOP THIS BILL

Senator Grassley and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee:

It is my understanding that the committee will hold a hearing on the Graham-Cassidy bill. I write this email to you and ask that it be added to the record. I am a citizen of Connecticut, but more importantly of the United States of America. This bill should not be allowed to move forward for a number of reasons.

Firstly, assessing the bill in coldly financial practical matters, it affects 1/6th of our economy and has not had the benefit of a CBO score. Pressing forward without a clear understanding and cost to the American people in life and treasure is reckless.

Even though the bill lacks a score giving insight to how this may affect the health of patients, a lengthy and respected list of leaders in the healthcare community including AARP and AMA strongly object to the passing of this bill as it will cause undue harm to those already under their care and those seeking affordable reliable healthcare in the future. State governments are not prepared for this additional burden, which will impact even those of us already covered by Medicare.

Secondly, the Senate has long held traditions for normal process which include comprehensive hearings and bipartisan agreements. Actions to push this bill through will also move the passing of honorable bipartisan legislation away from that which helped to make the Senate great and American a beacon of light. I fear is a dangerous road for you to take.

Please stand for what is right and not partisan and stop Graham-Cassidy from being ramrodded through the Senate and return to regular order. Affordable Health Care for all Americans is too important to be decided without due analysis and deliberation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,
Janice Hoff, MBA
Glastonbury, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Madsen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect American healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I lived long enough to be on Medicare but the only nearby place that will 'accept assignment' for my health care is a clinic that depends on Medicaid to stay open. If that funding goes away I will have no healthcare. In America.

I am constantly bombarded by ads and mailers for medical devices - to me the medical device industry is predatory and they have \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore and have not paid a dime in U.S. taxes. This is criminal.

If Medicaid funded low cost medical clinics - which are the only place I and many others can afford to be treated - close, it will have a ripple effect on the entire health care system. Hospitals will close, doctors that want to treat people will not be able to stay in business, all that fine medical technology will sit idle. Eventually this will affect people who think they have good, albeit expensive, insurance from their employers. America will suffer.

Are you thinking that maybe then the for-profit insurance industry that controls all medical care in this country will lower their profit margin? Is the plan to destroy health care coverage for everybody, because that is what will happen. All because Congress won't tax their lobbyists, donors and friends.

This will rip the fabric of America permanently, and destroy what your and my ancestors built. Our grandchildren will become refugees. And all because you refuse to see the truth in the greed of corporate America.

Virginia Madsen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Leandro, California 94577

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:55 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.

Pam Clark
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Diego, California 92104

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Miller-Bagwell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:55 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.

Anne Miller-Bagwell

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oakland, California 94605

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stuart McCalley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Greetings:

I am writing 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. I have many patients who have benefitted from the ACA and your proposed bill will eliminate protections for patients with preexisting conditions and essential health benefits. This bill would leave too many patients between the cracks, especially the most vulnerable. And there are many of them in Maine.

Do something really good for American and start working together by taking 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.

Stuart McCalley MD
Waldo County General Hospital
Belfast, Maine 04915
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Rudicel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren)
Subject: no to health bill

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 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.

Sally Rudicel, M.D.
Provincetown, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Soucy, Lyssa <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO Graham-Cassidy Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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, maybe worse, considering details have not been released, which, by the way, is unacceptable. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that was worked hard by many to achieve over the years.

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.

The Senate (and House) need to start representing "all" the people's best interest, and stop feeding their own ego!

Thank you,
Lyssa Soucy CPC 10, CCAT
Revenue Cycle Analyst
Reliant Medical Group

[REDACTED]
Worcester, MA 01608
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Note: The information contained in this message is intended only for use by the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This message may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this communication in error, please notify us immediately and delete the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim Glazer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA - don't repeal it

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Being disabled, with pre-existing conditions, I find myself in the category of those individuals who rely on affordable care to treat my existing conditions. *I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.*

Sincerely,

Kim Glazer

Studio City, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Perez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. My five year old son, Ryan, was born with a congenital heart defect (which has, thank God, resolved itself) and two years ago he suffered unexplained seizures. Without good health insurance, we could have been bankrupted by the massive bills from pediatric cardiologists, pediatric neurologists, pediatric anesthesiologists and the countless other doctors and specialists he has seen in his short (BUT AWESOME) life!

The idea that families like ours could lose coverage or be subjected to unforgivably high premiums because of preexisting conditions is heartbreaking. My sweet little boy wants to be an artist when he grows up and careers like those don't come with employer-sponsored healthcare! He'll need his own insurance and the idea that some insurance company could dig back in his medical records and deny him coverage is awful!

I would walk through fire for my little boy. There is nothing I wouldn't do to keep him healthy and well. I'm not alone in that. ALL PARENTS deserve to be able to receive the healthcare they need, for themselves and their children in an affordable way. Certainly the ACA needs work and I wholeheartedly support a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it!

Sincerely,

Jamie Perez
Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Coyne <[REDACTED]@u[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi,

As a current doctoral student, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

All my best,

Kelly Coyne
Evanston, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cthomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Heath care - oppose the graham-Cassidy repeal
Attachments: image1.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Thank you for taking comments

Please oppose the graham-Cassidy repeal bill.

My name is Cindy from Alaska. I have insurance from my husband employers but my family does not. They need access to affordable healthcare through federal regulation not state by state. I support Medicaid expansion for all states not just AK and MT. more importantly I agree with McCain and believe congressional 'order' is required for a bill that affects 1/5 our economy and the lives of all Americans. Lastly it is shameful and immoral that the GOP is selling out their own constituents for tax cuts for their wealth donors.

Thank you
Cindy Thomas
Anchorage Alaska --- all medical professional orgs also oppose this bill

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian Healy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham-cassidy comment

Dear Senators:

32 million Americans could lose coverage, face radical changes to Medicaid and suffer from diminished health-care funding, in every state. I urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Yours,
Brian Healy
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Muir <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy "Healthcare" Bill

I rely on affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am fortunate to have health care because of my job as a teacher, but I am so worried about friends and family who have pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and low income if a repeal of the ACA were to happen.

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

Sincerely,

Betsy Muir
San Rafael, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Swapna Kakani [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

My name is Swapna Kakani. I am a rare disease patient since birth, and I am the leader of the Alabama Rare Disease Coalition, a grass roots movement of rare disease patients & caregiver advocates to unite the state around the rare disease community.

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.

On behalf of the Alabama Rare Disease patients in the state, I ask you to vote no to protect the patient population. The bill would be destructive and patients with chronic health conditions would no longer be able to afford healthcare.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ms. Swapna Kakani
[REDACTED]
Huntsville, AL 35801
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: teresa ann rayburn [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I am writing about the proposed Graham-Cassidy Bill for changes to the ACA. Certainly by every measure, this is not a good bill.

Firstly, i must please ask congress not to hold a vote on this bill that will affect 1/6 of the economy without a CBO score.
how can you vote on this proposed legislation without fully understanding how it will impact the lives of Americans?

Secondly,i am extremely concerned about language in the bill that allows states to loosen protections for preexisting conditions. i will be directly affected by this provision,as i am a type 2 diabetic. i will not be able to afford the extra costs being predicted for my care,and will effectively priced out of health-care,in fact the efforts that i do to keep me well will severely bankrupt me.

thirdly,i am extremely distressed that monies to Medicaid will be reduced so drastically, making costs for seniors and the disabled to skyrocket.

From what i have carefully read,this bill does not bring health-care to more Americans-in fact ,it is predicted that upwards of 30 million or more will lose their existing coverage.and like before the ACA,people will have to choose between eating and getting health-care. People will die.

in conclusion,i find this proposed bill to be heartless and mean. it really is just a way for the GOP to pay for tax cuts.
rather than helping our fellow man,it is a bill that will hurt the most vulnerable in our population.

Please do not pass the graham/cassidy bill. instead,please return to regular order.
let's work together on improving the existing law with bipartisan committees, and a vote that requires all of Congress to work together for a solution.

thank you most respectfully,

teresa rayburn
[REDACTED]
huntington,wv 25704

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Palmere <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy public comments

I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son spent several years in the hospital as a teenager fighting leukemia. He survived, but had more complications than I can count--all of which caused preexisting conditions, not to mention the cancer itself.

There is no way any insurance company would offer him health insurance that he could afford unless they were forced to. From what I have read, this bill provides ACCESS for such people, but no guarantee that it would not be prohibitively priced. That could be a death sentence for him.

I encourage the Senate to resume the bipartisan Alexander/Murray Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Terry Palmere

Davis, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charlie Homer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill for Hearing

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I write to voice my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

I am a pediatrician who has spent much of my career caring for vulnerable children in Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. I am also a former health services researcher who focused my research on the impact and quality of health care services for children. I founded and led a nonprofit organization that works to improve children's health care.

As a pediatrician, I witnessed every day the importance of health insurance. When children have health insurance--including Medicaid and CHIP--their parents bring them to the doctor to get preventive care. This includes immunizations that protect children and our communities from infectious diseases. It also includes developmental monitoring so children can get the supportive services they need to learn and succeed in school and in life. When children have health insurance, they are able to obtain access to specialists to care if they have a chronic condition such as asthma, sickle cell disease, heart disease or cystic fibrosis. The large bills these children incur can exceed annual and lifetime limits unless such limits are prohibited (as they are under the ACA). Moreover, without protection against exclusions for pre-existing conditions, these children may be precluded from obtaining health insurance for the rest of their lives.

As a health services researcher in the 1990's, I discouraged my junior colleagues from studying the impact of health insurance per se on use of health services because I considered the question answered many times over. Uninsured children get less care, get care later in the course of their disease, and have worse outcomes. This is true whether the child and family live in Massachusetts, Kentucky or North Carolina--or anywhere else.

As a pediatrician, my first priority is children. The proposed Graham-Cassidy Bill will harm children directly by placing severe limits on Medicaid, a program that is both popular and necessary. It harms children indirectly because parents health will suffer from lack of care, and the economy will suffer as more adults become disabled, and as entrepreneurs are less able to start new companies. Moreover, in creating the block grants in this bill, population groups will be pitted against one another, and children (who don't vote) always lose that competition.

As a physician, public health professional, and a caregiver for an elderly mother, I am equally concerned about the impact of this bill on the health and well being of low and middle income adults and, through the Medicaid cuts, the elderly. Treatment for substance use disorder will become even less accessible, worsening the impact of the devastating opioid epidemic confronting our nation.

More details about specific concerns follow:

Eliminates programs that serve as a lifeline for low- and moderate-income families.

This proposal takes away secure coverage from millions, and replaces it only with the possibility of inadequate and temporary coverage. It ends the ACA's successful Medicaid expansion, which has extended coverage to nearly 12 million newly eligible low-income adults. It also eliminates the ACA tax credits that 10 million low- and moderate-income people rely on to afford coverage in the individual market. Although it replaces this funding with a block grant to states, the proposal offers no guarantee that states will provide an alternative affordable coverage option to former enrollees - and indeed the block grant is inadequate to pay for comparable benefits. From 2020 through 2026, block grant funding would be at least 7% (\$95 billion) below projected spending under current law, including a \$5-\$8 billion loss in federal funding to Massachusetts, my home state. Regardless, the block grant ends in 2027, leaving states and former enrollees with no help whatsoever. We do not believe it is likely that Congress would reauthorize additional funds for these programs at a later date, because the funds would no longer be in the baseline of the federal budget. Congress would therefore have to identify and reauthorize a new funding stream – something that would be extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Threatens care for low-income seniors, children, consumers with substance use disorders and people living with disabilities.

This proposal also threatens the care of millions of low-income seniors, children and people living with disabilities who relied on the Medicaid program even before enactment of the ACA. By capping and slashing funding for the traditional Medicaid program by 12% (\$1,079 billion) between 2020 and 2036, the per capita cap will force Massachusetts to cut payments to health care providers and health plans, eliminate optional services, and restrict eligibility for enrollment - all of which could restrict access to important health care services for Medicaid enrollees.

No eligibility category would be immune to the impacts of these cuts. Since children make up almost one-half of the Medicaid beneficiaries, they cannot possibly be protected if cuts of this magnitude are enacted. Cuts to Medicaid would also leave consumers with substance use disorders without access to the most effective treatments for addiction and to life-saving overdose medicine. And seniors and people living with disabilities would also face painful cuts, since Medicaid is the primary payer for long-term services and supports. Community Based Services - the services that keep people with cognitive and physical impairments home and in their communities - are "optional" in Medicaid. The fiscal pressure created by per capita caps will likely lead states to cut back on these services, forcing seniors and people living with disabilities out of their homes and into institutions for their care. And the burden will likely hit communities of color especially hard, where Medicaid enrollment is especially high.

Pushes massive new costs onto states.

All states, including Massachusetts, would take on new risks and costs because this proposal converts the overall Medicaid program into a per capita cap. Under this proposal, the federal government would cap its payments to states for most enrollees, and those caps would grow more slowly than actual Medicaid expenditures, leaving Massachusetts with insufficient funding to meet its current obligations. In addition, states would be fully exposed to any unexpected health care cost increases, such as from a natural disaster, an aging population or medical innovations. The per capita cap alone would reduce federal Medicaid spending by 12% (\$1,079 billion) by 2036.

On top of those cost shifts, the 31 states that expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act will be at risk for far deeper cuts. This proposal ends all federal matching funds for the Medicaid expansion in 2020. Some of the funds that the federal government would have spent on Medicaid expansion get rolled into the block grant, but the block grant doesn't make up for Massachusetts' losses because the block grant is inadequate overall, the formula favors non-expansion states (it redistributes funding from expansion to non-expansion states), and it ends entirely in 2026, leaving states with no funding to replace the lost expansion funds.

States have had the option to accept Medicaid expansion under the ACA. 31 States availed themselves of this option. As documented by the Commonwealth Fund reports and by the Urban Institute, they have decreased the number of the uninsured, and their health care costs have also risen more slowly. The proposed legislation penalizes those states that have chosen this course, and rewards those states that elected not to provide more coverage. This blatant pitting of one state against another will not lead to a more perfect union, but rather will exacerbate the divisions in our nation.

Because federal dollars for Medicaid account for about 20% of state budgets, FitchRatings “believes substantial Medicaid cuts would require states to make material budget adjustments over the next decade and beyond.” This will harm education budgets--they key to our nation's future--and other essential items such as transportation and housing.

Increases premiums and out-of-pocket costs and destabilizes the individual market.

By repealing the individual mandate and eliminating advanced premium tax credits and cost sharing reductions, this proposal would drive up premiums and cause insurers to exit the ACA’s marketplaces. As we know from previous CBO projections, repealing the individual mandate alone would increase the number of uninsured individuals by 15 million and cause premiums to increase by 20 percent. Furthermore, by replacing the financing of the ACA’s financial assistance with a block grant without any guarantee that states would direct their temporary block grant funds toward financial assistance, this proposal puts Massachusetts residents who currently rely on financial assistance at risk for sharply higher out-of-pocket costs and coverage loss.

Beyond the impact of this proposal on individuals, insurers currently selling in the Health Connector would face extreme uncertainty. Because this proposal allows states to change the market reform rules under the ACA and because there are no requirements or standards on how states must use the block granted money, insurers would likely face completely unpredictable risk pools. To make up for this uncertainty, insurers would likely impose large premium increases to protect themselves from unpredictable claims costs or choose to exit the marketplace completely. This means that consumers who purchase coverage on the individual market would likely have fewer coverage options, much higher premiums and no guarantee of financial assistance to shield them from the increasing out-of-pocket costs.

Eliminates critical consumer protections.

This proposal allows states to eliminate one of the most popular and important consumer protections under the ACA - the prohibition on charging higher premiums based on a person's health status or a preexisting condition. This means that in states that choose to eliminate this requirement, insurers could charge individuals with even relatively mild pre-existing conditions thousands of dollars above standard rates to obtain the same coverage as someone without a preexisting condition. Additionally, this proposal allows states to waive the requirement that insurers cover essential health benefits including mental health services, substance abuse treatments and maternity care. This could lead to discrimination against segments of the population (e.g., older adults, LGBT community) or consumers with specific chronic conditions (e.g. mental health or substance use disorders). For example, this could return us to a time when insurers only covered short-term, minimal treatment for mental health or substance use disorders, if they covered it at all. Before the ACA, almost half of plans in the individual market excluded addiction treatment.

Lacks transparency and opportunity for meaningful input.

We believe that everyone should have a say in the decisions that affect their health. With only one hearing scheduled days before a possible vote, and without a full CBO score to properly evaluate the budgetary and coverage loss impacts, it is impossible to have an open and deliberative process that would allow for a true

evaluation of and meaningful input on the policies in this proposal that would affect millions of people and one sixth of the US economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal. This legislation would have extremely detrimental impacts on children and on millions of Americans of all ages across our nation. It will heighten divisions at a time when we were just beginning to see a glimmer of bipartisan effort to strengthen and improve the ACA. We are hopeful this legislation will not move forward and that Congress will return to a focus on truly meeting the needs of all the American people by stabilizing the health insurance markets and passing a five year CHIP extension.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Homer, MD, MPH
Associate Clinical Professor, Harvard Medical School
Associate Professor, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Patricia Perry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

To All Members of the Congress

Having watched one effort after another to push through a repeal of the ACA just because President Trump promised it, I have been convinced that this is NOT responsible legislation. Each version of "TrumpCare" is worse than the last.

This country and its people rely on quality, affordable healthcare from its legislators, not an ill-thought-out partisan bill. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As many Americans have begun to learn from the current turmoil over healthcare, they have been taken better care of by the ACA than they thought, through Medicaid, coverage of pre-existing conditions, and less reliance on the ultimately more expensive use of emergency rooms. I agree that the ACA is not perfect. That is why I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Patricia D. Perry

Hopkinton, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Big D [redacted]@gmail.com >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cancer survivor opposed to Graham-Cassidy bill

I successfully defeated cancer two years ago and 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,
Darrell Davis
Oakland, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Brann [REDACTED] ✉
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,
I would like to discuss my concerns about the proposed Graham-Cassidy healthcare legislation in terms of my own medical history and how the changes in the law would affect people in my situation. Ten years ago last month, at the age of 57, I was diagnosed with colorectal cancer. I underwent surgery and subsequently chemotherapy and radiation to treat my cancer, and happily 10 years later I remain cancer-free. Fortunately, with my individual health insurance coverage, I was able to receive and pay for cancer treatment, but the \$1 million policy cap haunted me, being more than 1/3 of the way there after my 8-month minor brush with mortality. If I were to relapse or otherwise become seriously ill I would max out and either die or bankrupt my family. In addition, I would never be able to shop for insurance, as I would be uninsurable with a preexisting cancer history. My premiums rose, going from \$482/month in 2007 to \$1243/month in 2013. At last the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) was in force and I could switch to that without fear of losing coverage. My premiums went down to \$632/month. In 2014, I reached the age of 65 and obtained Medicare coverage, costing \$228/month. I no longer fear bankruptcy from healthcare bills and can now budget for retirement.

I reached the Medicare safe haven, but if I were five years younger and the Graham-Cassidy healthcare proposal was in force, my survival, both financial and physical, would be seriously threatened. This is a cloud that hangs over millions of Americans. The cuts to Medicaid which are proposed have already led to insurance market instability and have caused insurance companies to withdraw, jeopardizing the feasibility of existing programs. California's Medi-Cal depends heavily on Medicaid funding, and 1/3 of Californians receive medical care through that program. It would be a disaster for millions if that were taken away, not to mention the preexisting conditions and lifetime cap protections which threaten almost every American under the age of 65.

I am only one ordinary person and I am sure there are millions of stories like mine. Please vote no on this bill and instead work to improve the ACA, not destroy healthcare for our entire country.

Yours sincerely,
Sarah Brann

[REDACTED]
Berkeley, California 94705
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: julie tiede <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Good Afternoon, I am writing regarding the Graham Cassidy bill. I am married and retired but not entitled to medicare yet. Although my healthcare is expensive (\$1,400 per month for my husband and I) the most important issue to me is that I have it. I have had cancer in the past and know if we lose provisions on pre-existing conditions, as we could with the Graham Cassidy bill, I am doomed. I would never bankrupt my family for cancer treatments so I would have to die. I believe that fixes should be made to Obamacare (I would love to pay less!) but within the context of certain guaranteed provisions-ie no pre-existing conditions restrictions, minimum required benefits, no lifetime limits, etc. Inevitably some people will possibly be hurt by any change and I understand the critical fiscal implications for the economy. For that reason you should do all due diligence that is possible with changes, hearings, research, bipartisan political input, input from stakeholders, full CBO score etc.

Please (please) put politics aside and work for the American people. This is not something that should be rushed in any manner.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Julie Tiede

[REDACTED]
Big Pine, CA 93513
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee Wessels <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:12 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.

Ms. Lee Wessels
[REDACTED]
CORDOVA, TN 38016
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth F <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment submitted for public testimony at Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hello,

My name is Elizabeth and I'm writing in support of the Affordable Care Act and against the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I put myself through my master's program by working full-time as a freelance contractor. Because I could set my own hours and schedule, I was able to fit in work around my classes, something I never could have done with a traditional job. But working as a freelancer also meant I didn't have any employer-provided health insurance. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, I was able to get affordable health insurance even though I didn't have a traditional full-time job. Thanks to the ACA, I could take a risk on a freelance career and finish my education without any further student debt. This is one tiny example of how the ACA helped one person work her way up to success. This is why we need the ACA.

I'm young and very healthy, and **as a young and healthy person with low healthcare costs, I'm happy to subsidize premiums for older and sicker people.** For one thing, my parents will be in that category pretty soon, and I'll be there eventually. More importantly, letting sick people die for the sake of insurance company profits is disgusting on principle. The whole point of living in a society instead of a state of nature is that we do some things that aren't immediately in our individual interest (like paying \$150/month for insurance I never use) because the well-being of the group ultimately benefits us all. This isn't a difficult concept and I'm frankly amazed that the entire Republican party seems to struggle with it so much.

Even the supporters of the Graham-Cassidy bill have publicly admitted that it's a terrible piece of legislation. The ACA wasn't perfect, but Graham-Cassidy is like shooting yourself in the face to get rid of a mosquito on your nose. I oppose this bill and I would like to see Congress build on the ACA in a reasonable manner like adults, instead of pulling juvenile tricks with reconciliation and trying to jam through awful legislation to score political points.

Elizabeth Foster
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

Hello,

I am self employed and I rely on the ACA for my health insurance. I would not be able to afford it if I did not have that option. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you.
Sincerely
Peggy Browning
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Carpenter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am approaching the age when my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, and I can expect because of my genetics to face either the same battle or at the very least, eternal vigilance. This bill would make a scary situation into a death sentence. I have other things that fall into the pre-existing condition category, and my husband and I would lose our healthcare or see it fall below even a minimum standard of care if this passes.

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

Sincerely, Julie Carpenter

voter in Morongo Valley, CA 92256
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Beddor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill in the Senate. I rely on quality, affordable healthcare like millions in our country. Before the ACA, my pre-existing condition made it very expensive and difficult to get care. Since the ACA, it has been available and affordable. When I see a bill like Graham-Cassidy, I get very scared about the future.

Senator McCain said the bill-drafting process was flawed and his conscience doesn't allow supporting the bill. I agree.

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

Sincerely,

Michelle Beddor

Chanhassen, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kathy miller <[REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM
To: gchcomments; me2
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

September 22, 2017

gchcomments@finance.senate.gov

I am writing about the Graham/Cassidy bill for changes to the ACA. By every measure, this is not a good bill.

How can Congress vote on a bill that will affect 1/6 of the economy without a CBO score? How can you vote on legislation without fully understanding how it will impact the lives of Americans?

Please do not allow states to loosen protections for those of us with pre-existing conditions. I had brain surgery; I will be in deep trouble if this bill passes.

The cuts to Medicaid are draconian. Costs to seniors and the disabled will skyrocket.

Up to 30 million people will lose their healthcare coverage. People will die if this bill passes.

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy healthcare bill. Let's work on a bipartisan solution.

Thank you,

Kathy Miller

[REDACTED]

Ventura, CA 93001

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Darienne Hosley Stewart
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

I feel blessed to be raising my children and caring for my aging parents with the rights and protections of the Affordable Care Act. Quality, affordable healthcare is a human right, and essential for a prosperous, productive America. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Under the ACA, I've been able to obtain needed health services for my children that were not covered before ACA, and my children are now thriving. I've seen friends able to focus on helping their own children through life-threatening illnesses without worrying about losing their homes or how they'd be able to afford necessary treatment to keep their children alive for years to come.

The ACA is not a perfect solution, but it was an essential step forward. Please: We need a bipartisan Congressional effort to make the ACA work better, not repeal it and put millions of American lives in jeopardy.

Sincerely,
Darienne Hosley Stewart
Sunnyvale, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theana Snyder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM
To: gchcomments

Hi,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Healthcare should be available to all Americans. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Theana Snyder

Ojai, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carmen Berg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a physician who treats cancer patients. Thus all of my patients have pre-existing conditions! I don't want my patients to have to forgo curative treatment or not detect earlier more curable cancers or declare bankruptcy to get treated due to lack of insurance or cost. The Graham Cassidy Bill would allow states to get waivers to charge everyone with a pre-existing condition more, and insurance companies may no longer cover life-saving screening exams.

I would like to read out to you as an ordinary person. You may think that because you or your family doesn't have cancer or heart disease or a major medical problem this doesn't affect you. Unfortunately pre-existing conditions include conditions such as obesity (that is 35% of us, anyone with body mass index more than 30), anxiety, depression, and even pregnancy!

Good healthcare should not just be for the very wealthy. It is also irresponsible to vote on a bill affecting 1/6 of the US economy without a CBO score or proper debate and time to assess its impact! The Affordable Care Act is not perfect but there are much better solutions. This is not the answer.

Sincerely,

Carmen Bergom, MD, PhD

Okauchee, WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: sara siegel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern:

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

I was diagnosed with Type I diabetes when I was four years old on January 20, 1989, and I have now lived with diabetes for almost thirty years. I am fortunate to have had the access to quality healthcare that I know many others do not.

To suggest that this bill protects those with pre-existing conditions, yet will allow states to opt out of this coverage, is misleading, insulting, and dangerous.

No matter what I do, I will have diabetes for the rest of my life. I would like to be a contributing member to the society in which I live. Restricting my access to health care because of a genetic toss of the dice does not allow that, and that doesn't really make sense to me.

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

Sincerely,

Sara Siegel
Somerville, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: prenty noreen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy

Every American citizen needs decent, affordable healthcare; therefore, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

No iron clad guarantees on affordable coverage for those with pre-existing conditions is just wrong.

Not requiring that healthcare policies to cover basic conditions, including maternity care and access to birth control is just wrong.

Allowing lifetime caps is just wrong.

Also it is reprehensible that there have been no hearings, public debate, or a score from the Congressional Budget Office on this bill.

Work to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Noreen Prenty
Glenmont NY 12077

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jenna <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

hello...my name is jeannette gavin . i live in trinidad, ca. and want to urge you to NOT repeal the ACA. my family needs affordable coverage.
thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cindy Minter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act - I need it!

I **depend** on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am 63 years old, self employed, with pre-existing osteoarthritis and a history of skin cancer. I was laid off from my job (younger workers are cheaper) and pick up contract work when I can. I buy my own health insurance on the individual market. I depend on the Affordable Care Act to bridge the gap between the employer health coverage I once had and Medicare.

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

Sincerely,

Cynthia Minter

[REDACTED]

San Jose, Ca 95123

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: PAULA SCHAFER <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:07 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I'm retired and just switched from paying high but manageable medical premiums to more affordable Medicare premiums into which I paid for during my working career. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Paula Schafer

Petaluma, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Proposal Statement

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I stand with the American Majority and Oppose the Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Proposal.

I believe it is a step backwards for American Healthcare.

I further believe that Americans would be best served improving the existing ACA Healthcare System rather than repealing it and trying to reinvent the wheel (healthcare).

In Summary, the Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Proposal is in Direct Opposition to the Will of The American Majority, according to recent polls. Our representatives (Reps/Senators) were voted into office to represent the American People, their voters/constituents.

The Graham-Cassidy HealthCare Proposal DOES NOT represent my wishes or those of the American Majority.

Thank You for your time and Consideration!

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Sain

[REDACTED]

Los Lunas, NM

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Veronica Velarde Lunn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham Cassidy bill

"If passed, the Graham Cassidy bill would have a devastating impact on people, especially those of us with disabilities and pre-existing conditions."

Veronica Velarde
Glendale , Ca

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Sixtus <[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.

Michael Sixtus
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santee, California 92071

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bob newberg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

Senators you need to vote for the people. Drop this voting for party lines just to take Obama's name off of healthcare. Show some fn balls. 30 million people losing healthcare. Come on. Putting the healthcare burden on the state's. Are you kidding me? I live in Illinois. We didn't have a budget for over 2 1/2 years. Rauner is a joke. A millionaire sitting on his fat ass doing nothing. He sure won't do anything for us as far as healthcare. VOTE THIS DOWN. Feel free to call me anytime. [REDACTED] Bob Newberg [REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanne Isdahl <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal ACA

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. There are people in my family with pre-existing conditions and I am very concerned about them not having coverage or having to pay much higher prices for coverage. I believe everyone should have quality, affordable, accessible health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Joanne Isdahl
Plymouth, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

Senator Feinstein,

I hope You are well Today. Thank You for standing up against Trump and the attempt by Trump to dismantle Decades of Progress in our Nation, on many Issues, and by both Parties in Congress.

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.

Kory McFarland

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Salinas, California 93906

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elisse De Sio <[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.

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.

Elisse De Sio
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Carlos, California 94070-5009

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anke Dosedal <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

As a U.S. citizen who believes in the democratic process, I write to express my conviction that any bill that affects 1/6th of the U.S. economy should only be voted on by the Senate after **thorough** consideration, debate, and the “regular order” that Senator McCain is calling for. The Graham-Cassidy bill not only impacts 1/6th of the U.S. economy but also tens of millions of American lives. The attempt to rush it to a vote without proper vetting and debate makes a mockery of our democracy, and a mockery of our lives. You are elected by voters, not by the donor class. Pay heed to the massive opposition to this bill — which includes not only the vast majority of Americans but also virtually every organizational stakeholder in the U.S. healthcare system — and commit to engaging in the arduous bipartisan process of solving problems for your constituents, as you were elected to do.

Sincerely,

Anke Dosedal

Sunnyvale, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Downs-Miers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:00 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.

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.

Deborah Downs-Miers

[REDACTED]
PO Box 226

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Minnesota 55000

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katherine Agnew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I've been fortunate to have experienced no major health issues in my life, thanks to the pure luck of being born into a body that works pretty well and has so far stayed out of trouble. But there are so, so many people in our country who aren't so lucky. My father, for example, was born with a bad aorta that needed replacing when I was young.

There are so many like him, who have the pure bad luck of being born with bad connective tissue, immune systems, etc. It is not right to give states pathway to charge people more for preexisting conditions, as the Graham-Cassidy bill does. It's for this reason that I oppose any health care legislation that will increase prices and decrease coverage.

Katherine
Washington, DC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Kaya <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which will leave people I care about without the ability to pay for their medical care - they will suffer unnecessarily. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kate Kaya
San Diego, California
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Jean Hoefner <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy effort. I retired after 40 years of service but my company does not cover retirees and I'm still too young for Medicare. My nephew is young and has been diagnosed with aplastic anemia and needs individual health care coverage for treatment that is life or death for him. My dad needed Medicaid coverage for nursing care when it was no longer safe for us to care for him at home.

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

Sincerely, Lisa Jean Hoefner

Kings Beach , CA

Lisa Jean
Sent from my iPhone



cc Senator Warren (Beth_Pearson@warren.senate.gov) and Senator Markey (Nikki_Hurt@markey.senate.gov)

Rosemarie Derry
HMEA/IFFS Case Manager

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: shaina bauman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not repeal the Affordable Healthcare Act

Hello Senators Graham and Cassidy,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father and my aunt both have Type 1 diabetes (an autoimmune disease that is irreversible) and depend on affordable health insurance for the supplies they need to keep them alive. Both are often self-employed, because they are entrepreneurial and creative in spirit, and cannot always rely on an employer to provide them with health insurance. Other options, like those offered through the ACA, are crucial for them and for many others. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Shaina Bauman

Prospect Heights, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Regens, Nancy L - (nregens) <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hering

All families rely on quality, affordable healthcare. When my fellow Americans are unable to get it, that affects everyone. We do not live in a vacuum. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have been healthy but there are many family members and friends who need to have access to care that is actually affordable and of a high quality. This lack of access stresses everyone! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Regens
Tucson, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenny Gospodarek [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017
Chris and Jenny Gospodarek
[REDACTED]

Here is a script that gives an

My name is Jennifer Gospodarek and I live in Manitowoc, WI
I am a mom to a amazing sweet 4 year old boy who has Austium. He is on the Katie Beckett program so he can get in home therapy services. Without Katie Beckett program we would be unable to receive services for him. The in home therapy helps us to make sure our son can make a difference in this world and help us as parents what is best to help him through the challenges he is faced with in life. I never want to see a my son or a child struggle through life because resources are not available because a parent can't afford the services. In home therapy is working for pur family. We work together Dailey so hard to make just a little bit of progress. Today was the first day we saw progress. I walked away in tears at the end of session because all the effort and exhaustion paid off. It is very hard difficult to say I get it but no one will ever understand until they have a special need child of their own.

Children are our future and taking away this program for special needs kids is unfair. Children deserve the right to make a difference in this world and we as parents are responsible to help them through life.

Also my brother in law relies on Iris and Medicaid. He has special needs down syndrome and Iris provides him to be able to chose his care givers to help him with Dailey skills.
Any cuts to Medicaid threaten the lives and independence of people with disabilities.

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill and do not vote to move this bill out of the Finance committee

- Please oppose ANY cuts to Medicaid.
- Please work in a bipartisan fashion to increase access to affordable, accessible health care and long term services and support.

Thank you for you time
Jenny Gospodarek

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amber Simmons <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:00 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.

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.

Amber Simmons
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Olney, Illinois 62450

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham

To Whom It May Concern,

I am an advice nurse in California. I am outraged that our state will lose billions of healthcare dollars while this grotesque bill will shift money to states with political leaders who do not value taking care of their citizens. When I worked for a national advice nurse employer, I spoke to patients in those states. I vividly recall when TennCare was discontinued and cancer patients were told to turn to their churches for chemotherapy. Senator Bill Frist was in the Senate then. I have no respect for him as a physician who would abandon sick people.

Now we have another physician involved in this iteration of repeal and replace. Senator Cassidy blatantly lies to the public about his legislation. Who would ever trust a physician who lies? When asked directly about what is in this bill, GOP Reps simply pounded away about Obamacare. My father was a used car salesman. I know BS when I hear it.

I speak to dozens of patients weekly. I know their struggles. Some are compelled to chose between eating or affording medications. My employer cares for over 4 million people. We have people from every corner of California and every strata of society. For those who scramble to keep their heads above water, we do our best to provide ancillary services and charity care.

Additionally, I am battling Stage III Ovarian cancer with metastasis. I am over 64 and am feeling anxious and stressed that the GOP will ultimately gut Medicare and Medicaid. I have known about Medicare and Medicaid my entire, adult, working life. It's something we count on. Now you're going to rip it away after those of us who have worked decades, paid into the system and never thought we'd be faced without a safety net at retirement.

I am also a veteran Air Force nurse. I am aware of issues veterans face in healthcare. I don't know how you sleep at night knowing how after young people serve and have their legs blown off or suffer from PTSD find fewer and fewer services to help them adapt to life after the military.

The GOP have proven this year they aren't interested in governing or working together to find solutions. Most of my colleagues want single payer. If people still want to pay an insurance company for services, fine. Every person in the US or who finds themselves in the US even if they aren't a resident, should be able to see a doctor when they need one.

Thank you,

Christine Erickson, RN

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ryann Dear <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Repeal ACA. No to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

To Whom It May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My brother was able to have a critical surgery for his knee because of the ACA/Obamacare. Without the help of the ACA, he would not have been able to pay for that surgery. I would like to see bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Ryann Dear

Brooklyn, NY 11216

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael O'Connell <[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.

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.

Michael O'Connell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Frank Barbarino [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.

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.

Frank Barbarino
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cypress, California 90630-5325

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Hollie <[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.

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.

Paula Hollie

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Laguna Woods, California 92637

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: bruce gordon [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.

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.

bruce gordon
[REDACTED]

P.O. Box 32

Chitina, Alaska 99566

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dale Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It pulls much needed funding from the states, does nothing to address the growing opioid epidemic in the country, and will price millions out of health insurance. It puts the most vulnerable at risk and is a horrible piece of legislation.

I have had depression my entire life, it has been a struggle for my family to afford the meds I needed when I lived at home and even harder since I moved away. My condition made it hard to work and as a result it was very difficult to get ahead in life

The ACA gave me hope, I could finally reliably afford medication. Because of this, I could work more often and was eventually able to pay for my own insurance. But I know that I am lucky many people will not have that chance unless they have access to reliable insurance. This bill does not do that, it will force millions to decide between food and medicine and that crushes my soul. Having that safety net is important and having good healthcare lets you work more often. The ACA gave me hope and I want that for other people.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am tired of the damn infighting do your job.

Sincerely
Dale Smith
Anchorage AK

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betty Munson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am among the lucky minority who has BCBS. However, my daughter, many of my friends, and my patients who are not fortunate to have jobs that offer this insurance rely on ACA.

I strogly oppose three Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Betty Munson

Cambridge, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Engel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill; another step in the wrong direction.

I am writing to express my vigorous opposition to Graham-Cassidy. This rushed and ill considered legislation will outprice health insurance for those with preexisting conditions, promote instability in the health insurance market and deprive millions of low income Americans of basic healthcare. Moreover the legislative process driving this bill excludes Democrats as well as most of us from meaningful consideration of an immensely important piece of legislation.

Please, let's do this right!. Every citizen of this country deserves high quality affordable care. The best pathway to a successful approach must be open and bipartisan. A reckless legislative process will hurt many people, degrade national health overall and produce much unnecessary suffering.

Peter Engel, MD
Internal Medicine, Geriatric Medicine and Palliative Care,
Boston, MA

This was the response I received:

Lindsay Chestnut - Based on the information provided, you would be eligible for free or low cost health care through Medicaid. However, the state of LA has chosen not to offer you this health coverage at this time.

I was told that my income was too low for a tax credit, and I couldn't get Medicaid because, though I qualified, Louisiana had chosen not to expand the program.

They suggested I purchase a plan through the Marketplace. The cheapest option cost more than my entire monthly income. I suddenly had two options for health care: to get married or go without.

I went without.

Living without health insurance was one of the most terrifying positions I've ever been in. I was afraid all time of getting hurt or getting into an accident, because I knew if I did, I couldn't afford to go to the hospital. When I did get sick, I never went to the doctor; my symptoms seemed to last forever. Worst of all, my depression became severe, and even though I *knew* I needed help, I also knew I couldn't pay for it. I suffered in silence. Thoughts of suicide were never that far away.

It all came to a head in 2016, when I was sexually assaulted by a so-called friend. Fearing an STI, I went to the one place I knew I could count on: **Planned Parenthood**.

They accepted me, they listened to me, and they cared for me, even though I had no insurance that would pay. In fact, knowing this, they made that appointment as affordable as possible, signing me up for a few studies that helped reimburse the bill, even as politicians threatened to strip away all their funding. I will forever be grateful to the Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast for their care and attention.

I realized then that I could not keep living in a state that so actively kept its citizens from getting the services they need to survive.

I made the decision to leave. I left my partner, my new career, my new friends, and I moved back to a place that felt like home; a place where I had representatives who respected their constituents' well being; a place where I knew I could get everything I needed to thrive. I moved home to Maryland.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Hendricks <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:00 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 only crime is being disabled. My worst real crime was parking at an expired meter. However, if Cassidy-Graham passes, then prisoners, including serial killers who need to stay in jail and other serious criminals will have better healthcare than I will.

Marilyn Hendricks

16002
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deb Hydon, <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions that would put buying insurance out of my range!! As a result, I could get sick and die due to lack of affordability of insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Deborah Hydon

Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

--
Deb

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Haahr [redacted] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Committee Members:

I don't have to tell you that the Graham-Cassidy Obamacare Repeal bill is a terrible bill. Everyone knows that you know. All who campaigned on repealing ACA must be aware that public support for this bill is minimal, and all claims to the contrary are untrue.

Everyone -- Republican and Democratic -- Know too that the only reason not to wait for a CBO score is that you already know it will be bad for you. Whether you imperil the well-being of 28 million people instead of 32 million people, you're still cruelly harming a huge number of the people you are sworn to serve.

I pray that the committee will consider the public good after years of obfuscation and campaign-finance-driven misinformation and vote against this awful, misconsidered bill.

Sincerely,
Joan Haahr
Bronx, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tegwin Taylor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public input regarding Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Senators,

I believe in quality, affordable healthcare for everyone. I want to protect the states' healthcare budgets, healthcare for children and veterans, and the 30 million people this careless bill would impact. 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,

Tegwin Taylor,

Felton, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Audrey Schiffhauer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass this bill

My family and I 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,

Audrey Schiffhauer

Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gloria Fong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL!!!!!! Reasons below.

Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, **I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill**. My life is totally dependent on Medicaid for my **98 year old mother**, my own history of **pre-existing conditions**, and **affordability** of healthcare for my young son, who is starting his working career. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA, NOT** repeal it.

Healthcare is so important and critical for all American citizens that passing a faulty and not thoroughly thought of bill is not to the benefit of the American public. It is just a Party looking for a win and **NOT** a bipartisan effort to pass a healthcare bill that meets **ALL** American citizens' wishes and needs.

Sincerely,

Gloria Fong
San Mateo, California 94401

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Langen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

This is the wrong way to try to pass major legislation! Not enough information, not enough time for debate, no bipartisanship! I am opposed to the bill.

The Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill could cause many millions of Americans to loose coverage and could raise premiums for those with pre-existing conditions.

Bob Langen
[REDACTED]
Rocklin, CA 95765
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

A shameful bill. More money for rich Republicans, less health care spending for the people who need it.

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.

Paul Pomerantz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Greenport NY, New York 11944

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Hand <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Richard Hand
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Gerber, California 96035

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grant Palmer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:01 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT repeal ACA

To whom it may concern:

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

If not for Medicaid and California's IEHP program, my wife and daughter would not get quality reproductive health coverage, and I would not receive treatment for several neurological issues that I have.

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

Sincerely,

Grant Palmer

Redlands, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Cruz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT PASS Graham-Cassidy Bill--it hurts families and the most vulnerable

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family relies on the ACA's Medicaid expansion to treat our diabetes, high cholesterol, and celiacs. All of these will be considered preexisting conditions if and when we have to enter another insurance market. Conditions that will push us into a more expensive bracket, forcing us to pay for care with money that we do not have. According to many of the congressional representatives and it seems like a majority of the senate, you all believe what your colleague Rep Mo Brooks believes--that we do not lead good lives because leading a good life means 'taking care of your body' so as to prevent you from having a preexisting condition. These preexisting conditions are a combination of hereditary, work induced, and income status. These are elements that are not accounted for in the Graham-Cassidy bill. More so, it would further decrease our access to treatments because it reduces the amount of money given to the state to fully fund Medicaid and its healthcare systems. We rely on this care to lead healthy productive lives. My father worked for thirty plus years in this country to provide my mother and me with a home, an education, and opportunity after immigrating here from Mexico. He is a registered Republican and he is being punished for not being a wealthy one. Consider who your constituents are. All of them.

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

Sincerely,

Stephanie Cruz

Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alyssa Provencio <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern:

My family and 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,

Dr. Alyssa L. Provencio
McLoud, OK

Alyssa L. Provencio, PhD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie . <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with the pre existing condition, asthma is a fairly common tale. My asthma is an expensive condition to have for having bad genes. I exercise, I do not smoke, I am of average weight. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julie Herro

La Crosse, Wisconsin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Craven <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: healthcare

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill with every fibre of my being. To push through a plan that will affect 1/6th of our economy with no CBO score and no meaningful debate is insane. People I know with chronic diseases will lose their coverage. Some of them will get sicker and maybe die earlier. Others will go broke trying to care for their children or parents. States—especially mine--will be unable to provide medical care for the poor. The country will suffer widely. All of this so that you can keep a promise to a small portion of voters who hate Obamacare? If the premiums of the ACA seem high, just wait until you pass this horrorshow of a bill. EVERYONE agrees that premiums, especially for people with pre-existing conditions, would double and even triple. Is that compassionate conservatism? What are you thinking?

Go back to the drawing board WITH THE OTHER PARTY and find a way to fix the ACA. It's already in place, most Americans love it, and your other plan sucks.

Thanks,

Jessica Craven

[REDACTED]
Los Angeles, AC 90065

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John DiFrancesco [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on GC

This bill is not "health care reform." It is a thinly-veiled tax cut for the very rich, paid for with the lives of the poor.

It is a crime against humanity. Its sponsors and supporters should be charged with attempted human rights violations.

It should not, and must not, pass.

Sincerely,

John M. DiFrancesco
Epping, NH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Forbes-Watkins <[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.

David Forbes-Watkins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Nelson <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

My daughter relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. She suffers from PTSD and will incur increases in her insurance premiums if she can find coverage at all.

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

Sincerely,

Janet Nelson

Clive, IA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erika Opper [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am very concerned that block grants to states would allow them to drop current protections for people with pre-existing conditions or allow insurance companies to charge significantly more for those people. Both my daughter and my sister suffer from recurring, severe migraines and my sister is suffering with serious kidney disease. Without the protections provided by ACA, their insurance coverage would be prohibitively expensive.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Health care is far too complex and critical to be decided in the bill currently being rushed to a vote.

Thank you for your attention,
Erika Opper
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alexis Brunner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing.

To Whom it May Concern:

The Graham Cassidy bill would devastate my family. My 6-year-old daughter has Type 1 Diabetes. Type 1 Diabetes is lifelong, life-threatening autoimmunity that my daughter could have done nothing to prevent, and cannot change through lifestyle or diet. She was diagnosed at age 3. She will die without 24/7 access to medical care.

The Graham Cassidy bill risks putting affordable, quality care out of reach for families like ours with pre-existing conditions. Families caring for individuals with special needs are already financially strapped because care requirements of children greatly limit employment options. Removing the protection of insurance coverage for kids like mine who are already fighting a lifelong uphill battle against Type 1 Diabetes, or any disease on a daily, hourly basis just to stay alive is unacceptable and inhumane.

Please take action. Please show compassion. Instead of passing this deadly bill that would destroy my family and my daughter's future, work to shore up insurance markets and improve healthcare systems for all.

Thank you,

Alexis Haley
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10025

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: missy rosenberry [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

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

The ACA is not perfect. But repealing it ONLY because the Republicans will lose face if they don't, and doing ANYTHING regardless of the consequences, is reprehensible.

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

Sincerely,

Melissa Rosenberry

Webster, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsay Chestnut [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO GRAHAM-CASSIDY!

To the Esteemed Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Lindsay Chestnut. I am a proud citizen of the United States. And I need you to hear my story:

For years, I taught at a public high school in Baltimore, MD. I liked my job, but it took *everything* I had. The long hours, the workload, the poor building conditions, the challenges faced day-in and day-out all left me exhausted, stressed, sick, and—very quickly—depressed. But one of the benefits of being a teacher is that I had health insurance. It was one of the many reasons why I stayed year after year, even though my physical and mental health continued to suffer.

I thought about leaving the profession several times, especially once my work environment turned toxic, but there was always this nagging question, “What would I do for health insurance?”

When the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010, it was like a breath of fresh air. Freedom! Finally, I could get health insurance regardless of my employer.

In 2014, when most of the ACA’s provisions came into effect, I left the classroom. I got a full-time job I actually enjoyed and signed up for Obamacare. For one year, I was totally and completely happy. I became a kinder, more relaxed person. I became a healthier person—both physically and mentally. I didn’t have much, but I had peace of mind.

That all changed in 2015, when I moved to Louisiana. My partner had gotten his dream job, so I followed him down to New Orleans, where we were both excited to start our new life together.

At first, it was great...until I couldn’t find a job. Months of searching and applying left me with nothing. I got discouraged and my depression worsened. I knew I needed help, but since I was now a resident of Louisiana, I could no longer use my insurance. Finally, after several months, I found a few part-time positions, making just enough to pay most of my bills. None of these jobs provided any sort of benefits, so I applied for health care through the Marketplace, as I’d done before.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Miri Day Hindes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: no on graham Cassidy

dear committee

i rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have breast cancer in remittance. because of my a a I have had excellent health care. we have a small family business. we would not be able to afford healthcare without it. i would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

please

sincerely,

Miri hindes

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable health care.

My son has psoriasis with arthritis. If he loses his health care due to a pre-existing condition, he will end up declaring bankruptcy due to exorbitant medical bills. This would be an adversity difficult to rise above not to mention its sending a wrong message to someone who prides himself in paying his bills.

I would like to see a bipartisan bill to improve the ACA rather than repeal it.

Respectfully,

Ellen Schufreider

Green Valley, Arizona

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rich Kacmar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill the Gramm-Cassidy bill

This bill has nothing to do with health care and everything to do with cutting taxes to give the tax breaks to the top 1% and stroking Trump's ego by negating another of Obama's legacies. If legislators truly cared about providing quality affordable health care to Americans, they would use regular order to arrive at a bipartisan agreement that would withstand the vicissitudes of changing legislatures. This bill affects nearly one-sixth of the U.S. economy and there will no opportunity before a vote is taken to get an informed report of the consequences. This is madness.

Kill the bill.

Richard Kacmar

[REDACTED]
San Diego, CA 92105

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karin Burger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE DO NOT repeal the ACA

Our family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Here in the state of California, the Affordable Care Act has been a huge success...because unlike some other states, California has taken full advantage of the Medicaid expansion offered by the ACA, and worked to make affordable insurance available to all Californians. The states in which the ACA is "a disaster" are the ones who rejected the federal Medicaid expansion and chose to make their own residents suffer instead of taking advantage of how the ACA works. I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Karin Burger

Petaluma, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa K... <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

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

10 years ago, my husband was laid off when the company he worked for went bankrupt without warning. We had 2 little kids, with the typical ear infections, colds and viruses that go with early childhood and a fairly benign history of doctor visits. We were turned down for health insurance because of these "preexisting conditions" which were, in essence, kids who needed a doctor's note to return to school following common childhood illnesses contracted from school mates. Thankfully, we were able to avoid major medical catastrophes (like the need for antibiotics) until he was again gainfully employed with benefits. But when the Affordable Care Act came, it gave us a huge feeling of relief because it meant we would never again need to go without insurance.

Now that they are older, those kids have developed a few ongoing conditions...all relatively benign (mild asthma that has never needed anything beyond an inhaler, migraines requiring a doctor's note to take ibuprofen at school, anxiety disorder) and yet because they are ongoing conditions, they would potentially be considered pre-existing and preclude us from insurance and medical care. I have Celiac Disease...which means I'm perfectly healthy if I follow the diet; and yet that simple label means I can't get life insurance on the off chance I stop the easy to follow guidelines. I can't imagine that medical insurance would be any more lenient.

I've met people who are newly insured under the ACA and afraid to use their benefits freely because if the bill is repealed simply having been to the dr may affect their ability to get reinsured. Can you imagine developing a symptom and simply suffering because getting better and being out of pain isn't worth the risk of losing insurance for "something really bad" down the line?

My family is lucky. We are truly blessed when it comes to our limited medical needs. And yet; without the affordable care act we would no longer be guaranteed the right to pay a reasonable rate for medical insurance and care. The ACA isn't perfect, but it's a million times better than what came before; and much better than any of the alternatives that have been proposed thus far. Besides, the effects of previously uninsured people suddenly having access to medical care and coverage haven't even had a time to stabilize and show the long term benefits of a society that takes care of ALL it's members, not just the healthy ones.

Everyone deserves easy access to medical care. When you're hurting, when your child or loved one is hurting, figuring out how to gain access to medical care (and asking whether their life and comfort is worth the financial cost) should be the absolute last thing on our minds.

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

Sincerely,

Lisa Govorko

Santa Clara, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julia Prem <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To Whom it May Concern,

I rely on the Medicaid that I have been gifted through the ACA and 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,

Julia Prem

Hudson, NY
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

My beloved family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am so frustrated with the stubborn, senseless treatment of the ACA which, while not perfect, is at least a step in the right direction. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Shawn Michael
Chicago, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Oleta Danforth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 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. Oleta Danforth

[REDACTED]
Lincoln, AR 72744
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Isaac <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017
Christopher Isaac
5703 Carnation Avenue
Portage, IN 46368

Ladies and Gentleman of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments regarding the proposal before you. Nine years ago I started my first job after graduating college. Two years ago while driving to work, I suffered a seizure with no discernible cause. I now need to take pills twice a day, for the indefinite future, to keep the symptoms in check. The thought that pre-existing conditions can now be waived depending on the state legislature fills me with dread. We have already seen what happens when states are given the choice. Some states will decide to waive these protections just as some states decided not to expand Medicaid.

For the rest of my life, I will have to take into account what state I live in if this amendment were to pass. This will severely limit my economic opportunities going forward. The reasoning that governors will not use these waivers is absurd as if this was the case, the waiver provision would not have been added to the law.

Additionally requiring states to guarantee "adequate" and "affordable" replacements do not solve anything. These are relative terms that do not apply equally in all situations. My brother who makes approximately half of my salary does not have the same definition of "affordable" as I do. This will be the same for millions of citizens around this country.

It is my hope that each of you will take into account the well-being of every person in this country and vote according to the principle of justice for all that this country was founded on.

Thanks,
Christopher

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Fogarty <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have several pre-existing conditions in our family, and my husband and I both work in freelance capacities. The ability to buy insurance when we need it, without worry as to what might be rejected, has been very helpful to us. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anne Fogarty
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Hillsdale <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy. Improve the ACA don't repeal it

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My history with pre-existing conditions, including arthritis and chronic pain along with the increasing unaffordability of insurance in the individual marketplace is why I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Cheri Hillsdale
Bloomington, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennie Kemmerer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Healthcare is not a luxury and too many people would be lost out if this bill were passed. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kemmerer

Los Angeles, CA]

--

Jennie Kemmerer

"Try to be a rainbow in someone else's cloud." ----Maya Angelou

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mb <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare - graham Cassidy

I rely on quality and affordable healthcare. I had healthcare thru my employer for 30 years but due to downsizing I have gotten insurance thru the ACA most recently. There is no way I can afford to access healthcare that's \$500 or more a month. Please don't repeal the ACA. My life and others depend upon it. I'm not on medications but do have a preexisting condition that requires me to have annual checkups to detect early signs of cancer. Without ACA, I wouldn't be able to checkups or procedures if required.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristina McNaught <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care for all!

In regards to the Graham-Cassidy hearing,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Pre-existing conditions cannot exclude people from healthcare or make obtaining it unaffordable. A health care bill that is "bad" for sick people does not perform its duty.

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

Sincerely, Kristina McNaught, PA

Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosalyn Dewey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing Monday the Graham - Cassidy Bill

My family and I oppose the Graham-Custody Proposed Legislation.

We were a young couple married 5 years, working long hours to buy a home.

We settled for a 2brm condo because I was pregnant. Our son decided to come early despite nutrition classes, no smoking or drinking, no late nights, and some exercise. In other words nothing we could have planned and paid for.

He was in neonatal for 11 days. A wipeout financially, had we not been covered with Insurance!! There were no caps. It was an astronomical bill! I'd never seen so many zeros.

Insurance saved us. Doctors and staff saved Jonathan. It was touch and go for 5 years. Today, he the youngest Dr to be published in the AMA, published multiple times. He's an accomplished physician at Emory mentoring many other young Doctors. The debt to society is repaid.

My point is Insurance saved our marriage, our dreams for us and our children.. And now, rather than being trapped in an endless cycle of low-paying jobs and poverty, we each give back with joy to our respective communities.

It's been more than 40 years ago, but my heart broke all over again, when Jimmy Kimmel shared in tears the story of his son.

Please consider how our Nation is affected by insurance when you are vulnerable and young! Taxpayers give it to you because it allows for successful lives and work.

What will our Nation look like in 2026? You're deciding millions of futures; which, will in turn determine our Nation! Thank you for considering a little more.

Yours Truly,
Rosalyn Dewey, MS
Retired Family Therapist

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeannette Schreiber <[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.

Jeannette Schreiber
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Jose, California 95123

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Oles <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 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.

Mark Oles
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Aurora, Illinois 60502

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sonya Weaver <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy bill

The ACA has benefited me and my family a great deal: it has allowed us to afford good quality healthcare. We are both self-employed, and before the ACA took effect, our options for health insurance were very limited and we could not afford good coverage. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, as I have opposed all other efforts to repeal the ACA. I would like to see a genuine bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sonya Weaver
Belmont, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Noah Pestana <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It pulls much needed funding from the states, does nothing to address the growing opioid epidemic in the country, and will price millions out of health insurance.

My story with is I have had cystic fibrosis my entire life, it has been a struggle for my family to afford the meds I needed when I lived at home and even harder since I moved away. The ACA have me hope, I could finally reliably afford medication and could breath. Because of this, I could work more often and was eventually able to pay for my own insurance. But i know that o am lucky many people will not have that chance unless they have access to reliable insurance. This bill does not do that, it will force millions to decide between food and medicine and that crushes my soul.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am tired of the damn infighting do your job.

Sincerely,
Noah Pestana
Brookline MA 02446

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Mayor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 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.

Jennifer Mayor
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

West Glover, Vermont 5875

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: carlos acuna <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 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.

carlos acuna
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

El Centro, California 92243

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Tomaselli <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 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.

Paul Tomaselli

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
1000 Cambridge St

Salinas, California 93906

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Meadow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom it may Concern:

I am on Social Security Disability as is my adult autistic son. My husband has diabetes and heart disease. Our family relies on quality, affordable healthcare as should all Americans.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is the worst bill yet. Hurts anyone with a pre-existing condition, caps coverage, and hurts the most vulnerable and disenfranchised citizens of our country. There has been no CBO review, no bipartisan hearings, no transparency...I could go on.

I think the ACA was a great first step. It is not perfect, and needs to be improved. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it, not repeal it.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Meadow
Lexington MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kamela Lise <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy Bill!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother lives with MS, my husband is a type 1 diabetic and my father was just diagnosed with cancer. It is hard enough coping with these diseases themselves, let alone the stress of worrying about coverage.

We are not "consumers" of healthcare. We are human beings trying survive. We don't need "choices." We just need care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Kamela Koehler Brown

Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosemarie (Rose) Derry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE no on Graham-Cassidy - Protect Medicaid

Dear US Senate,

The Graham-Cassidy proposal is an egregious attempt to take away health care from children and adults with disabilities and other vulnerable populations. It would devastate the state budget for health care in Massachusetts. I urge you to oppose this proposal. My son Owen has Autism, without Medicaid to cover his therapies I don't know where we would be. Life would be drastically different, he may not even have ever learned to communicate. He was diagnosed at 6 years of age, he was soiling himself, biting and lashing out at others, it was a terribly difficult time. He is now 14 years old, he has a full scale IQ of 136, he is a freshman in High School and doing wonderful. We owe it all to the specialists that worked and continue to work with him. Specialists that are paid in part through Medicaid. Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Thank You

Rosemarie Derry

Worcester, Ma

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Sallee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerns about the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Afternoon,

I'm writing to express my concern about the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Like millions of Americans, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am currently 20 weeks pregnant with twins and have read that the new bill would raise premiums by \$17,000 for pregnancy care. Read that again. \$17,000. That's abhorrent, given that we rely on pregnancy and childbirth to renew the human population. I understand that people have concerns with the ACA. No healthcare bill is perfect. But instead of gutting its protections, there needs to be bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it, not repeal it. Millions of people are literally counting on you. Please don't turn healthcare into a political battle.

Margaret Sallee
Buffalo, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julianna Shapiro <j[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:16 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. Julianna Shapiro
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Bass <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This latest version of what Republicans claim is a health care bill is just another sham. It has nothing to do with health care except that it does away with Obamacare with nothing specific to replace it. It's the same old, tired deception retitled, and its only purpose is to make it easier for the super-rich to get even richer, at the expense of the poor and middle class. They're really not fooling anybody any longer, and this nonsense needs to stop. The Senate needs to reject this now and not let it come back. There are so many things that need to be done for this country, I'm sick of seeing time wasted on Republicans trying to soothe their wounded, inflated egos.

Richard Bass
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hampton, Connecticut 06247

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Conway <[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.

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.

Deborah Conway
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New Lenox , Illinois 60451

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anthony Buda <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Anthony Buda
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boston, Massachusetts 02128

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katrina Hanson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My wife has had type 1 diabetes since childhood, a disability and a preexisting condition that would cost us thousands of dollars a month out of pocket. Without affordable health insurance, we couldn't afford the insulin she needs to survive. She would only survive a few months without this medication. Because of ACA, she was able to get affordable health insurance when she needed it most, and she is able to live a normal and productive life as a public high school teacher. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Katrina Hanson

Oakland, CA 94608

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rose Bostaph <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Rose Bostaph

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Healdsburg, California 95448

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Beaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Catherine Beaver
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
2007 Highway
Mena, Arkansas 71953-8411

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: manijeh khabar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:54 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.

manijeh khabar

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Van Nuys, California 91411

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ludwik S. Szymanski [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

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 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.

Ludwik S. Szymanski, M.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda McEachronTaylor <[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.

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.

Linda McEachronTaylor

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tucson, Arizona 85746

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ofelia Rabassa <[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.

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.

Ofelia Rabassa
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, New York 10023

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Comander, Jason <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Hurt, Nikki (Markey); Pearson, Beth (Warren)
Subject: oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear 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 has the same flaws as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state 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.

Furthermore as Senator McCain pointed out, this bill is being considered without knowledge of its consequences (CBO evaluation), and without bipartisan input, which is an irresponsible way to make policy and leads to instability in the future.

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.

Sincerely,

Jason Comander M.D., Ph.D.
Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary
Harvard Medical School
Ocular Genomics Institute

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] e
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] x

Mass. Eye and Ear Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual(s) addressed in the message above. This communication may contain sensitive or confidential information. If you are not an intended recipient, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. If you believe you have received this e-mail in error and the email contains patient information, please contact the Mass. Eye and Ear Compliance Line at 844-815-4401. If the e-mail was sent to you in error but does not contain patient information, please contact the sender and delete the e-mail.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Raymond McElroy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 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.

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.

Raymond McElroy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hughson , California 95326

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ann Rice <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 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.

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.

Ann Rice
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fremont, CA, California 94536

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat PESCOD <[REDACTED]@et>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 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.

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.

Pat PESCOD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Southampton, New York 11968

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Villanueva <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:34 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.

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.

Robert Villanueva
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60634

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charissa Ruth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy debate comment

Good afternoon,

I am extremely opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I've been lucky enough my whole life to have healthcare through my parents' work - and now healthcare through my own work as a teacher. But I've also experienced health issues. I have broken bones and needed surgery, and my sensitive skin developing painful rashes every few months has led to many doctor visits. But I'm extremely lucky, compared to other Americans who are dealing with chronic and serious illnesses and disabilities, and who can only afford these bills thanks to the ACA.

I can't imagine the terror that millions of my fellow Americans are experiencing today, knowing that their state might be able to price them out of affordable insurance, or impose a lifetime cap on their - or their child's - medical care. Thousands will die. Thousands of families will go bankrupt. We are better than this.

We need bipartisan work to improve the ACA, not a last-minute sham of a bill passed through just to get a political win. How could senators in good conscience vote on this bill when they have no idea what impact it will have on the economy, or how many people will lose health care? No CBO score should mean no vote. Period. If the senators pushing this bill actually cared about helping people, they would do this carefully and out in the open.

Sincerely, Charissa
St Paul, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Barmack <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Obama repeal

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that I am a cancer survivor as is my husband, I would suffer terribly under the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Beth barmack
Los Angeles calif.

Beth Barmack L.C.S.W.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] F. Ca. 94118

[REDACTED]
www.BethBarmack.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Graham/Cassidy Bill

Let's not lie to the American People about what is in the Graham Cassidy Bill.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My niece is 17 years old with **Type 1 Diabetes** (a pre-existing condition). Without affordable health care she could face the inability to get insurance, or only be able to obtain insurance at a premium that would put her health and her financial future at risk.

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

M. D. Glazer
Skokie, IL.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Martello <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:58 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.

Michael Martello
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: janice mcintyre <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:58 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.

janice mcintyre
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tustin, California 92782

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daphna Mitchell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:58 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.

Daphna Mitchell

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, New York 11201

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carly Moore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony submission

I rely on access to quality, affordable healthcare through the health insurance offered by my employer. We can't risk losing the employer mandate, and we can't risk the narrowing of qualifying essential health benefits for the sake of state-level "efficiencies" that will likely result from this disruptive, unpredictable change. We can't let patients who rely on Planned Parenthood for essential services, sometimes without nearby alternatives, wait for treatment. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,
Carly

San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Muriel Roberts [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act. Do not leave 32 million Americans without health insurance. If the law needs changes, that should be done. But wholesale repeal would be a terrible disaster for the country.

--
Muriel R. Roberts
[REDACTED]
Pocatello ID 83201
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Russell Ziegler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Russell Ziegler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Downers Grove, Illinois 60516

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: EDWARD G. MRKVICKA <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

EDWARD G. MRKVICKA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FORT ATKINSON, Wisconsin 53538-1942

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Will Noling [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Will Noling
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, New York 11225

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: frank cahill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. I urge a bipartisan effort to make health care available to all at a lower price.

Thank you,

Pat Cahill

[REDACTED]
Romeoville, IL. 60446

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Wise <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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 Wise
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mesa, Arizona 85201

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Hixon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 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.

Mark Hixon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lydia Kihm <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Republicans -

Please help serve your American constituency so they have reliable, quality, affordable healthcare similar to what your families have.

Fix the ACA, do NOT repeal it.

Lydia Kihm

Minnetonka, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzanne Garverich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve NOT REPEAL

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is I would not get the care I need to be able to access the quality of care and the same medications I currently have that has afforded me to not only have a quality of life today, but to thrive mentally and physically if the Graham-Cassidy bill passes. Not to be alarmist, but this would inevitably mean death for me. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Suzanne Garverich
Jamaica Plain, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carla Hess <[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.

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.

Carla Hess
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Haiku, Hawaii 96708

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

Please look out for us average Americans rather than rich folks and corporations. This latest 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 the 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.

Cynthia Gefvert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Greg LeRoy <[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.

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.

Greg LeRoy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santa Barbara, California 93110

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: craig figtree <[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.

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.

craig figtree

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

chicago, Illinois 60614

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Geoff Dutton dutton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a corporate putsch on the health care system enabled by members of Congress who thrive by industry collusion and peddling disinformation to the people. Please resist this obvious ploy to remove adult supervision from health care and health insurance that would leave 32 or more million Americans uninsured, decimate Medicare, send costs for health care skyrocketing for families and state governments, and bless medical device manufactures with a \$20B kiss-off of their expatriated profits.

Democrats: Reject Graham-Cassidy and embrace single-payer insurance—if not Sen. Sanders' version or Sen. Conyers, reintroduction of H.R. 676's, then craft something better yourselves if you care for health care reform, real reform.

Geoff Dutton dutton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Belmont, Massachusetts 02478

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Henning <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose GC Healthcare bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would be financially ruined if this bill goes into effect.

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

Sincerely,

Karen Henning

Belchertown, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: todd layton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
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.

I am single dad of a young man with a Neurofibromatosis Type 2. I doubt you have ever heard of this disease. It is very rare form of cancer where due to a genetic deficiency he develops tumors on his brain and nervous system. I am not looking for a handout or entitlement. I am not an internet troll. I am veteran (22 years in Army and Army reserves) who works hard, pays taxes, goes to church, works with homeless and right now is a very scared dad. If you pass this legislation and my lifetime caps kick in then how will I keep my son alive? What do I do? I understand all the political words and do not want a stock political answer about Obamacare either way. I want you to tell me what will I do if lifetime caps kick in? Will you let me go back in military at 57 so I can get on military care? I honestly do not know what I would do.

I am a real person with a really sick kid. You would like him. He is funny, smart and going to college now although he is deaf in one ear, partially deaf in other, blind in one eye and 20% blind in other eye. But he is good kid - wants to study medicine. Goes to Gordon College in Mass. Good kid. He is a real person too. We are not numbers or news headlines. We are people who will be left standing in scary spot if there lifetime caps. But if you feel politically that you must introduce this legislation then please give me an escape route .path back into military or someway that I can get more care through some type of earning program. I already work 70 hours but I will give you another 70 digging ditches if that keeps my son alive.

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.

Please prayerfully consider opposing the Graham-Cassidy plan. If not then tell me what I can do to keep my son alive. I am not looking for a handout or entitlement. I will earn my way.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. todd layton
[REDACTED]
manchester, NH 03103
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rick Schroeder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

Hello -

I urge the Senate NOT to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. What we need is a strong bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thanks,
Rick Schroeder
[REDACTED]
Lake Elmo MN 55042

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deb Tirone <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 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.

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.

Deb Tirone
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, New York 10003

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica Vaughan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep the affordable care act!

My family, some friends and many coworkers rely on the care provided by the Affordable Care Act. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without the ACA, many of the people I care about most would be completely unable to afford the care and meds they need - they'd basically be left out in the cold. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

The first iteration of the ACA was a necessary start toward improving the healthcare system in the US and it should be improved upon rather than discarded altogether. Let's embrace the concept of launch and iterate in this country so that we may learn and improve over time rather than discarding ideas and concepts wholesale. This is how great progress is made.

Sincerely,

Jessica Vaughan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eileen Gawrys <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: testimony re: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Aloha,

I am a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and non-Hodgkins lymphoma survivor. As a provider and a survivor I have experienced first-hand the importance of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Health care is a right and all humans deserve this right. All women deserve easy access to cervical cancer and breast cancer screening. For some unfathomable reason, the men in the GOP are committed to stripping Planned Parenthood of funding without a clear idea of Planned Parenthood's role in preventative health in communities.

The States may claim intention to protect patients but have no accountability. Patient protections can be disregarded. The focus of Paul Ryan and the GOP in getting rid of Medicaid is a form of Eugenics which is only thinly disguised. Health rights are as important as Civil Rights. Disability Rights. Human Rights.

Stop this Proposal.

Mahalo nui loa,

Eileen gawrys
[REDACTED]

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Andres [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1995, while I was employed. When my employer decided to change insurance providers, I knew the new provider would not be required to cover my pre-existing condition. Subsequently, thanks to President Obama and the ACA (which the Republican Party now seeks to repeal), women like me no longer had to fear we would lose our coverage for pre-existing conditions. I do not understand why the Republican Party wants to remove this protection. I can only assume it is because you are beholden to your campaign donors, not to the people you claim to represent (the people who pay for your own great health insurance coverage).

Sincerely,

Susan Andres
[REDACTED]
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Nolan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:33 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.

Angela Nolan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yuba City, California 95991-5817

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mm gordon Keith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:33 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.

Mm gordon Keith
[REDACTED]

BuenosAires

Sahuarita, Arizona 85629

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Liz Fraley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

A good friend living in Southern California told me recently that she was glad that if her husband had to get terminal cancer and die, it was during Obamacare. She shared details of financial outlay over the years of his treatment. He had horrible insurance with a high deductible (over \$6k) and not once did they make it past February before he reached the deductible limit. Radiation treatment cost: \$50k; 3 runs of chemo \$22k-\$50k per week for a 4-week run; Surgery to get more of the tumor: \$100K; Cost of pain meds: \$120K per month, every month, for 18 months; 6 months in hospice: \$100K. They would have spent at least \$1M if not for the ACA. In fact, without the ACA, his insurance would have been canceled at diagnosis. And then his cancer would have been a pre-existing condition and not covered by any future insurance. Even if it had not been canceled, he would have hit the lifetime cap (under ACHA which was better than what Graham-Cassidy proposes) about a year before he died. Graham-Cassidy is a terrible proposed law that's literally going to kill people, faster and horribly.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ronald C Faas [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 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.

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.

Ronald C Faas
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santa Maria, California 93455

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marion Loewenstein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 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.

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.

Marion Loewenstein
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, New York 10040

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Betsy Mueller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:33 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.

Betsy Mueller
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Richmond, California 94804

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Bugnato <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:33 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.

Theresa Bugnato
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yuba City, California 95991

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly Woodhull <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:33 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.

Holly Woodhull
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce Cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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.

Bruce Cohen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

pahoa, Hawaii 96778

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Holly <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassady

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father is on disability after working for 26 years in a meat packing plant, and getting injured on the job, he relies on affordable care. My son had multiple ear infections as a baby, I was told before the ACA that he had preexisting conditions and we had to pay a higher premium because of this, even though he hadn't had an ear infection in 15 years. I want like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Holly Bahr

Noblesville, Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

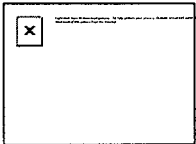
From: Kate MacDonald <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GC Bill

Good afternoon,

I urge you NOT to repeal any aspect of the Affordable Health Care system, as it provides so many of our citizens with access to health care they wouldn't otherwise receive. What's good for all is good for all.

Thank you,
Kate MacDonald
Oakland, California

--
Kate MacDonald
Resource Specialist
Havens Elementary School



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Russell Se [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 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.

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.

Russell Se
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Guilford, Vermont 05301

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Kenney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The ACA helps REDUCE Costs

Good evening,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the potential repeal of the ACA through the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My understanding is that one of the pieces in this bill is to use block grants to distribute Medicaid to states. What this does, in effect, is put a cap on how many Medicaid dollars can be spent instead of spending them when they're needed.

In order to collect Medicaid, currently, an agency must bill for it and justify the use of the funds in particular activities. As a former case manager, I submitted my client case notes monthly to Medicaid along with the time that I was billing. My case notes were then vetted and it was determined whether or not my agency would get reimbursed for the activities that I did or not. Medicaid funds are monitored and given purposefully and strategically; they are not simply handed out.

The use of Medicaid dollars toward case management actually helps reduce costs overall in other areas. For example, as a case manager I worked with individuals who, prior to case management, had a high utilization of detox facilities and jails, neither of which fully billed Medicaid. The costs for those facilities come from local taxpayer dollars, and without Medicaid funds to provide case management, my clients might continue to utilize more expensive care at a high rate.

Wisconsin has had a healthcare system similar to what the ACA requires of Medicaid for years prior to the ACA, and our Governor Scott Walker has praised it as an effective way of providing healthcare. Making Medicaid or Medicare available to all who cannot afford private health insurance is cost-effective, person-centered, and shows results. I urge you to consider this when evaluating our federal healthcare system.

Thank you,

Emily Kenney, LCSW

[REDACTED]
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Moen, Sierra Marie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: graham-cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have chronic pain and have improved 90% in the past year because I can access healthcare. Why do you want me to be in pain? Act like grownups! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Sierra
Duluth, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Neena Nizar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:46 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.

Neena Nizar

[REDACTED]
Elkhorn, NE 68022
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mera Wolf <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 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.

Mera Wolf
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jill ganassi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 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.

jill ganassi

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
tuckahoe, New York 10707

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christa Brelsford <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy is bad for America's Economy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I lost my right leg at 25 in a natural disaster in another country - this is an expensive pre-existing condition. I am also a professional academic scientist. I would like to start my own business someday, based on the scientific ideas I'm developing right now. However, I cannot walk without quality, reliable prosthetic care, and if Graham Cassidy passes, without a functioning ACA exchange, I will not risk starting a business and losing my employer sponsored health care. Similarly, the Graham Cassidy bill makes no guarantee that the protections in place for coverage of pre-existing will remain. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Christa Brelsford

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Feedback about the bill

First, there should be no vote until the CBO report. To do anything else is flatly irresponsible. Yes, I know about the deadline.

Second, whatever you pass should have one other element: It should be federal law that senators, representatives, their spouses, their children and their parents all be required to divest themselves of their current insurance and be forced to accept the insurance in whatever bill they pass.

Third, it's obvious, of course, but the health care bill as promulgated has an element that not only damages the poor but aids the wealthy. The latter element has absolutely no rational justification for being in the bill in terms of reforming the health care crisis -- other than attracting campaign contributions. It is unconscionable.

Fourth, even those who supported the Affordable Health Care Act acknowledge it has problems that need fixing. So here's a revolutionary concept absent since the days of Gingrich: bipartisan crafting of proposed legislation, containing compromises and common ground. Wow, what a concept!

Wm. F. Hirschman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ryan Burbey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Whether you are Republic, Democrat or other, you must oppose and tell your Senator to oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. This legislation will crash insurance markets throughout the country, destroy rural hospitals and worsen the partisan rift in Congress. Here are simple reasons why no Senator should support this bill.

1. It violates regular order in the most egregious manner possible. Health Care represents nearly 20% of GDP currently. This bill has had zero hearings, zero public input and has not been scored by the CBO. Congress must return to regular order to solve the challenges that face our country.
2. This bill will strip healthcare from millions of Americans, mostly women, children and those in extreme poverty by removing the medicaid expansion. It literally defunds healthcare for children. Whatever your politics, surely you believe that the USA should provide healthcare to all children.
3. This bill will deepen the partisan divide. The medicaid expansion repeal is combined with a shift to block grants which will uniformly benefit "Red" states over "Blue" states. This will result in millions of poor families who live in inner cities losing coverage. Senators from "Blue" states will seek to block all legislation benefiting "Red" states moving forward as retaliation.
4. The block grants established by this bill do not have mandatory adjustments for inflation and cost increases. This will result in a reduction in coverage for everyone over time and an increase in costs as folks who are unable to get preventative care must again seek urgent or emergency care.
5. This legislation eliminates required coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. Millions of our most vulnerable citizens, including any child who is born pre-mature or has a genetic disease will never be able to get coverage.
6. Eliminating the healthcare subsidies will crash the market as millions of Americans can no longer afford coverage. Insurance rates are stabilized by maintaining large pools. The smaller the pool the higher the rates.
7. The idea of state control over healthcare runs counter to the basic logic of large pools to stabilize rates and counter to the long GOP advocated concept of selling insurance across state lines.
8. Rural and small community hospitals and medical facilities will close due to the loss of viable coverage by the citizens they serve.

We need a bipartisan solution to our healthcare system. It should incorporate all viable ideas which reduce cost and provide basic coverage to all Americans. This solution must be developed through a process of hearings and input following regular order. Regular order does not mean one hurried hearing right be for the vote. The American people deserve better than this flawed, harmful bill.

Any Senator who votes for this legislation should never be elected again.

Respectfully,
Ryan Burbey

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ned Redmond [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 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 will not only reduce funds for our most vulnerable citizens in MOST STATES significantly, it will remove the consumer protections that have saved so many lives since The Affordable Healthcare Act began.

Listen, I know this is just a political thing. Republicans and their mouthpieces have told voters for years that the ACA is worse than toxic so that they have a reason to keep you in office--to fight these imaginary enemies. Don't do the political thing. Do the right thing for your constituents and keep them alive.

Ned Redmond

19139
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MelissaBoyd32 [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments

My name is Melissa Boyd. I live in West Virginia. My nephew was born with severe mental disabilities. Making cuts to medicaid would disasterous to his health and well being. He is on several medications, one of which costs \$300 per month. Without medicaid, i would not be able to afford his medication. And the end result would be that my nephew would have a seizure, and possibly die. Is that what you all really want to happen?

Powered by Cricket Wireless

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Loeffler [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 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 nobody knows what the bill says. The CBO has not had enough time to score it so we have no idea of the impact on our finances or the health of our public. I am a senior citizen and cannot afford to pay extra money because I have pre-existing conditions, am a woman, and over 65 years of age. At some point, I may need Medicaid. Is it going to be available to me or will our state be underfunded. I note that PA has just had a credit downgrade due to poor financial decisions of law makers. Can I trust them to be wise regarding any unregulated block grant given to the State? This is bad legislation. Fix the ACA and let's get on with healthy living. Stop playing games with the health of our nation.

Anne Loeffler

17311
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Burrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill the Graham Cassidy bill.

The Graham Cassidy bill is a flawed heartless piece of legislation that will end up hurting Americans. I implore all Republicans supporting it to show a shred of decency and kill this lame attempt at saving face.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heidi Mastrogiovanni [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: info@kamalaharris.org
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

"At long last, have you left no sense of decency?"
- Attorney Joseph Nye Welch to Senator Joseph McCarthy

This was considered to be the turning point which led to the end of the evil that was McCarthyism.

Please, let the defeat of the cruel and evil Graham-Cassidy Bill be the end to the selfish and unethical attempts to repeal healthcare in the United States. My husband and I would either be dead or bankrupt without the ACA.

How does any elected representative who wants to take healthcare away from millions of people sleep at night? Why does the American public not deserve the same government-provided healthcare that senators and congresspeople have?

If this bill passes, people will die. That is not hyperbole. There will be blood on your hands if you allow this to pass.

Sincerely,
Heidi Mastrogiovanni
Los Angeles, CA 90039
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MaryCatherine Lowery [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 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 leaves those who are the most vulnerable with no access to healthcare or unable to afford healthcare. We need to protect those with pre-existing conditions, our children and elderly and those of very low income. They need access to healthcare that is within their means.

MaryCatherine Lowery

19403
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thelma Thelma Clements [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate because my mother is 74 years old and she has ovarian cancer and renal failure. She has dialysis three times a day and should this bill pass I am afraid it will affect her care.

Please consider if this was your immediate family member that was in need of healthcare that would protect them from the high cost of insurance copays and fees.

thank you.

Thelma Thelma Clements

19013
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amelia Ehrens [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 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 is pure garbage, even worse than the previous 3 travesties the GOP has attempted to push through. You can't take away health care from millions of people, take away protections for people with pre-existing conditions and be able to charge women insane amounts just for giving birth. What kind of monsters are you? This isn't the kind of society anyone should want to live in. You have to do better and be better.

Amelia Ehrens

19130
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Megan Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 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 My family would be devastated by the destruction of the ACA.

I have a 28 year old son who is very seriously ill with schizophrenia. He is unable to work and is on disability.

I am terrified that he would be on his own without insurance. A man with schizophrenia and no employment options would never be able to be insured with out the ACA protecting all of us.

Megan Ward

19083
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon O'Brien [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 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
I have friends with children on the autism spectrum. The services they receive sre essential for their ability to succed in life! I have family members with cancer! They will not be able to pay for their care! This bill is cruel and impacts our most vulnerable!

Sharon O'Brien

18974
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: phil klassner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:13 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 is no guarantee for pre existing conditions and I believe that a large number of needy individuals will not be covered. Improve the system we have now. Don't tear it down just to say " see. I told you we could repeal it" The individuals who want to see this repealed do not care at all about the population that rely on this coverage, LEAVE IT ALONE. THIS IS GETTING OLD....

phil klassner

19027
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tyler, Brenda [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my concern regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill and the devastating impact it will have on individuals with disabilities. I am the parent of a young man who relies on Medicaid and the services it provides to be a contributing member of the community in which he works and lives. I beg you to put aside partisan politics and focus on the personal cost this bill will inflict on the lives of the most vulnerable members of our society.

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill!

Thank you for your consideration.

Brenda Tyler

-----Message Disclaimer-----

This e-mail message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by reply email to Connect@principal.com and delete or destroy all copies of the original message and attachments thereto. Email sent to or from the Principal Financial Group or any of its member companies may be retained as required by law or regulation.

Nothing in this message is intended to constitute an Electronic signature for purposes of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA) or the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act ("E-Sign") unless a specific statement to the contrary is included in this message.

If you no longer wish to receive any further solicitation from the Principal Financial Group you may unsubscribe at <https://www.principal.com/do-not-contact-form> any time.

If you are a Canadian resident and no longer wish to receive commercial electronic messages you may unsubscribe at <https://www.principal.com/do-not-email-request-canadian-residents> any time.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Frederick [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on HR 1628

Julie Frederick
[REDACTED]

Kalispell, MT 59901

September 21, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee - GCH Comments,

The Graham-Cassidy Amendment (H.R. 1628) is a disaster for disabled Americans. It imposes cuts to Medicaid in the form of block grants, which will force States to cut home and community based services which support the lives and liberty of disabled people, as well as the elimination of the Community First Choice program that provides in-home personal assistance services for individuals with disabilities.

Here in Montana we are already facing severely debilitating budget cuts at the state level and we cannot afford to undergo further budget reductions! The American people have already spoken loudly against the cuts that Graham-Cassidy imposes.

Right now in Medicaid, home and community based services are "optional" which means States are not required to provide them. Prescription drugs are "optional." Durable Medical Equipment such as wheelchairs are "optional." As Graham-Cassidy cuts Medicaid funding over time, States will pare down these "optional" services, which are very much necessary for disabled people to enjoy the liberty which the Constitution promises to all Americans and that allow states and the federal government to serve individuals with disabilities in lower-cost care settings in the community rather than in costly nursing homes or other institutional settings.

Republicans did not win office by promising to cut Medicaid and destroy the lives of disabled people. Indeed, President Trump promised the opposite, that Medicare and Medicaid would not be cut under his administration. The Graham-Cassidy bill goes out of its way to cut Medicaid services that disabled people and seniors rely on to live our lives.

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill (H.R. 1628) and any legislation that cuts Medicaid home and community based services, which millions of people with disabilities have no choice but to rely on in order to survive let alone participate in their communities or even be employed, tax paying citizens.

Sincerely,
Julie Frederick

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gianine [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

PLEASE- for all senators- VOTE AGAINST THIS HORRIFIC AND DRACONIAN BILL. It will literally kill people. We will all be watching - to see who votes for this. Listen to the majority of Americans- MEDICARE FOR ALL.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Irene Taurins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 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 my daughter, who has a precondition according to insurers, was unable to obtain health insurance before the ACA. I do not want us to go back to those very bad days. Please be kind and vote no on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Healthcare should be a right for all.

Thank you for your consideration.

Irene

Irene Taurins

19096
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Ellen Waite [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I am strongly opposed to the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill!!! Please work on a bipartisan effort for a long-term fix to our nation's healthcare!!! Thank you. Mary Ellen Waite

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Schneider [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO!

To Whom It May Concern;

I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to this bill for a number of reasons, one primary one is the elimination of protection for preexisting conditions. I cannot believe we continue to even bring up this stupid, cruel idea.

Do not endanger the health of Americans by voting for this bill!

Thank you,

Dawn Schneider

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Kessler [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:11 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 not morally sound. The ACA has never been perfect, however, it did what it needed to do to help. What needs to be done now to fix it is not to repeal it, but to fix what's broken and help stabilize the market. Every bill put forward kicks millions of people off their insurance and leaves our most vulnerable citizens stranded. Between cuts to Medicaid, and high risk pools, this bill is a disaster. My daughter relies heavily on the Medicaid expansion granted by the ACA. She is 4 years old, and has severe allergies and asthma. Without insurance, we'd be paying over 1400.00\$ a month in medication. She just wants to be a normal kid and live a normal life. She loves dance, and soccer, and these medications make it possible for her to enjoy without worry. Why shouldn't she be able too? If this bill passes, you will be killing my child.

Have you ever known what it's like to not be able to breathe? A voluntary action that our bodies do naturally for us, my daughter struggles with. I've watched her turn blue and gasp for air. Have you ever had to watch your child have a seizure? If you have, I'm sorry, I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemy. A simple cold for her can be deadly. We learned how vulnerable she truly is when she got sick last year, not long after her diagnosis. She seized on the couch, without warning, and when she woke, she couldn't breathe. We went to the hospital twice that week. We are lucky. She is under the best care at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. It is because of them that she is stable, and surviving. What would we do if I could no longer take her there? What if she no longer had access to the medications that allow her to breathe? What has she ever done to deserve that? She's 4. Her life is just beginning. Let her grow up to change the world. She wants to be a doctor when she grows up, and I know she'd be great at it.

We need to guarantee healthcare to all of our citizens, regardless of income, regardless of pre existing conditions. Healthcare is a human right.

Rachel Kessler

19007
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Angela Tate [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Medicaid and Affordable Care Changes

Please do not move forward with legislation that could result in block grants, per capita Medicaid, making essential benefits an option for states and insurance coverage not being mandated. We live in the richest nation in the world and spend more on healthcare than any other country. There must be a better solution that would result in all having equal healthcare regardless of income. Our nation was founded on the beliefs of equality and making people "earn" healthcare is not equal treatment. People and employers should not be responsible for healthcare, our government should. If we increase taxes to do so I am all for that and in turn would have less out of pocket costs myself. What a great life it would be to not have to worry about paying for healthcare or someone in my family getting sick and we are suddenly destitute. Please do not move forward with current legislation and come up instead with something that provides equal healthcare for all.

Angela Tate
afnotsecure

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail communication and any attachments may contain confidential and privileged information for the use of the designated recipients named above. The designated recipients are prohibited from re-disclosing this information to any other party without authorization and are required to destroy the information after its stated need has been fulfilled. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error and that any review, disclosure, dissemination, distribution or copying of it or its contents is prohibited by federal or state law. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone at (417) 886-0404, and destroy all copies of this communication and any attachments. Be aware that (1) e-mail is not a secure method of communication, (2) any e-mail that is sent to you or by you may be copied and held by various computers it passes through as it goes from us to you or vice versa, (3) persons not participating in our communication may intercept our communication by improperly accessing your computer or our computers or even some computer unconnected to either of us which the e-mail passed through. If you have consented to receive email from our agency and you change your mind, please let us know as soon as possible by calling the telephone number above. CONFSTATEMENT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nsterios <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill is not in the best interest of the American People

Please do not continue to increase the unhealthy stress being placed on many Americans by pushing through this highly partisan, non-transparent, hastily conceived bill. It should be telling that so many medical associations, doctors, insurance companies, the AARP, and a multitude of concerned citizens are against this bill.

Despite Senator Graham's statement, "At the end of the day, this is the only process left to stop the march towards socialism" any informed individual who is not self-delusional, or trying to delude others, knows 1-this is not the only process to improve access to healthcare in the United States and 2- we are not marching towards socialism (look up the definition). This is simply partisan, tendentious nonsense.

Everyone in this country, especially those like myself who do not receive employer sponsored health insurance, will be greatly impacted by your votes. We are already impacted by the ongoing strain and stress your continued attempts to repeal and destroy a system that has improve access to healthcare for hundreds of thousands of your fellow Americans. I find it impossible to fathom how none of you have a family member or friend who has benefitted from the ACA. Please be assured that I will actively and generously support the opponents of all of you who vote for this bill, or any bill, which takes away what so many rely upon for basic health care.

Stop marching the American public further down the road of the worst healthcare outcomes and insurance system in the developed world and start engaging in a regular, ordered process to provide thoughtful, intelligent guidance to improve the ACA now.

Nikki Sterios

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosaleen Doherty [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham Cassidy- Not good for American Workforce or Older Americans

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am the owner of a senior home care agency that employs 500 health care workers and serves about 800 seniors every week. Many of them are on Medicaid

We write to voice our extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. We are 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.

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 approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.[1] Below we've laid out in more detail our concerns with this proposal and the devastating impact it will have on consumers.

Eliminates programs that serve as a lifeline for low- and moderate-income families.

This proposal takes away secure coverage from millions, and replaces it only with the possibility of inadequate and temporary coverage. It ends the ACA's successful Medicaid expansion, which has extended coverage to nearly 12 million newly eligible low-income adults. It also eliminates the ACA tax credits that 10 million low- and moderate-income people rely on to afford coverage in the individual market. Although it replaces this funding with a block grant to states, the proposal offers no guarantee that states will provide an alternative

affordable coverage option to former enrollees - and indeed the block grant is inadequate to pay for comparable benefits. From 2020 through 2026, block grant funding would be at least 7% (\$95 billion) below projected spending under current law, including a \$5-\$8 billion loss in federal funding to Massachusetts.[2] Regardless, the block grant ends in 2027, leaving states and former enrollees with no help whatsoever. We do not believe it is likely that Congress would reauthorize additional funds for these programs at a later date, because the funds would no longer be in the baseline of the federal budget. Congress would therefore have to identify and reauthorize a new funding stream – something that would be extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Threatens care for low-income seniors, children, consumers with substance use disorders and people living with disabilities.

This proposal also threatens the care of millions of low-income seniors, children and people living with disabilities who relied on the Medicaid program even before enactment of the ACA. By capping and slashing funding for the traditional Medicaid program by 12% (\$1,079 billion) between 2020 and 2036, the per capita cap will force Massachusetts to cut payments to health care providers and health plans, eliminate optional services, and restrict eligibility for enrollment - all of which could restrict access to important health care services for Medicaid enrollees.

No eligibility category would be immune to the impacts of these cuts. Since children make up almost one-half of the Medicaid beneficiaries, they cannot possibly be protected if cuts of this magnitude are enacted. Cuts to Medicaid would also leave consumers with substance use disorders without access to the most effective treatments for addiction and to life-saving overdose medicine. And seniors and people living with disabilities would also face painful cuts, since Medicaid is the primary payer for long-term services and supports. Community Based Services - the services that keep people with cognitive and physical impairments home and in their communities - are “optional” in Medicaid. The fiscal pressure created by per capita caps will likely lead states to cut back on these services, forcing seniors and people living with disabilities out of their homes and into institutions for their care. And the burden will likely hit communities of color especially hard, where Medicaid enrollment is especially high.

Pushes massive new costs onto states.

All states, including Massachusetts, would take on new risks and costs because this proposal converts the overall Medicaid program into a per capita cap. Under this proposal, the federal government would cap its payments to states for most enrollees, and those caps would grow more slowly than actual Medicaid expenditures, leaving Massachusetts with insufficient funding to meet its current obligations. In addition, states would be fully exposed to any unexpected health care cost increases, such as from a natural disaster, an aging population or medical innovations. The per capita cap alone would reduce federal Medicaid spending by 12% (\$1,079 billion) by 2036.

On top of those cost shifts, the 31 states that expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act will be at risk for far deeper cuts. This proposal ends all federal matching funds for the Medicaid expansion in 2020. Some of the funds that the federal government would have spent on Medicaid expansion get rolled into the block grant, but the block grant doesn't make up for Massachusetts' losses because the block grant is inadequate overall, the

formula favors non-expansion states (it redistributes funding from expansion to non-expansion states), and it ends entirely in 2026, leaving states with no funding to replace the lost expansion funds.

Because federal dollars for Medicaid account for about 20% of state budgets, FitchRatings “believes substantial Medicaid cuts would require states to make material budget adjustments over the next decade and beyond.”^[3] And by pulling coverage from so many, this proposal would drive up uncompensated care costs on local communities, state budgets, safety net providers, and hospitals.

Increases premiums and out-of-pocket costs and destabilizes the individual market.

By repealing the individual mandate and eliminating advanced premium tax credits and cost sharing reductions, this proposal would drive up premiums and cause insurers to exit the ACA’s marketplaces. As we know from previous CBO projections, repealing the individual mandate alone would increase the number of uninsured individuals by 15 million and cause premiums to increase by 20 percent. Furthermore, by replacing the financing of the ACA’s financial assistance with a block grant without any guarantee that states would direct their temporary block grant funds toward financial assistance, this proposal puts Massachusetts residents who currently rely on financial assistance at risk for sharply higher out-of-pocket costs and coverage loss.

Beyond the impact of this proposal on individuals, insurers currently selling in the Health Connector would face extreme uncertainty. Because this proposal allows states to change the market reform rules under the ACA and because there are no requirements or standards on how states must use the block granted money, insurers would likely face completely unpredictable risk pools. To make up for this uncertainty, insurers would likely impose large premium increases to protect themselves from unpredictable claims costs or choose to exit the marketplace completely. This means that consumers who purchase coverage on the individual market would likely have fewer coverage options, much higher premiums and no guarantee of financial assistance to shield them from the increasing out-of-pocket costs.

Eliminates critical consumer protections.

This proposal allows states to eliminate one of the most popular and important consumer protections under the ACA - the prohibition on charging higher premiums based on a person's health status or a preexisting condition. This means that in states that choose to eliminate this requirement, insurers could charge individuals with even relatively mild pre-existing conditions thousands of dollars above standard rates to obtain the same coverage as someone without a preexisting condition. Additionally, this proposal allows states to waive the requirement that insurers cover essential health benefits including mental health services, substance abuse treatments and maternity care. This could lead to discrimination against segments of the population (e.g., older adults, LGBT community) or consumers with specific chronic conditions (e.g. mental health or substance use disorders). For example, this could return us to a time when insurers only covered short-term, minimal treatment for mental health or substance use disorders, if they covered it at all. Before the ACA, almost half of plans in the individual market excluded addiction treatment.

Lacks transparency and opportunity for meaningful input.

We believe that everyone should have a say in the decisions that affect their health. With only one hearing scheduled days before a possible vote, and without a full CBO score to properly evaluate the budgetary and coverage loss impacts, it is impossible to have an open and deliberative process that would allow for a true evaluation of and meaningful input on the policies in this proposal that would affect millions of people and one sixth of the US economy. We encourage a return to “regular order,” as requested by many members of the Senate and supported by the American public, which would require the opportunity for stakeholders, including industry experts, providers, consumers and state policymakers to weigh in.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal. This legislation would have extremely detrimental impacts on millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents. We are hopeful this legislation will not move forward.

Sincerely,

Rosaleen Doherty

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Salem, MA 01970

[REDACTED]

Template Letter: Senate Finance Committee Hearing on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

We write to voice our extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. We are 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.

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 approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.[1] Below we've laid out in more detail our concerns with this proposal and the devastating impact it will have on consumers.

Eliminates programs that serve as a lifeline for low- and moderate-income families.

This proposal takes away secure coverage from millions, and replaces it only with the possibility of inadequate and temporary coverage. It ends the ACA's successful Medicaid expansion, which has extended coverage to nearly 12 million newly eligible low-income adults. It also eliminates the ACA tax credits that 10 million low- and moderate-income people rely on to afford coverage in the individual market. Although it replaces this funding with a block grant to states, the proposal offers no guarantee that states will provide an alternative affordable coverage option to former enrollees - and indeed the block grant is inadequate to pay for comparable benefits. From 2020 through 2026, block grant funding would be at least 7% (\$95 billion) below projected spending under current law, including a \$5-\$8 billion loss in federal funding to Massachusetts.[2] Regardless, the block grant ends in 2027, leaving states and former enrollees with no help whatsoever. We do not believe it is likely that Congress would reauthorize additional funds for these programs at a later date, because the funds would no longer be in the baseline of the federal budget. Congress would therefore have to identify and reauthorize a new funding stream – something that would be extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Threatens care for low-income seniors, children, consumers with substance use disorders and people living with disabilities.

This proposal also threatens the care of millions of low-income seniors, children and people living with disabilities who relied on the Medicaid program even before enactment of the ACA. By capping and slashing funding for the traditional Medicaid program by 12% (\$1,079 billion) between 2020 and 2036, the per capita cap will force Massachusetts to cut payments to health care providers and health plans, eliminate optional services, and restrict eligibility for enrollment - all of which could restrict access to important health care services for Medicaid enrollees.

No eligibility category would be immune to the impacts of these cuts. Since children make up almost one-half of the Medicaid beneficiaries, they cannot possibly be protected if cuts of this magnitude are enacted. Cuts to Medicaid would also leave consumers with substance use disorders without access to the most effective treatments for addiction and to life-saving overdose medicine. And seniors and people living with disabilities would also face painful cuts, since Medicaid is the primary payer for long-term services and supports. Community Based Services - the services that keep people with cognitive and physical impairments home and in their communities - are “optional” in Medicaid. The fiscal pressure created by per capita caps will likely lead states to cut back on these services, forcing seniors and people living with disabilities out of their homes and into institutions for their care. And the burden will likely hit communities of color especially hard, where Medicaid enrollment is especially high.

Pushes massive new costs onto states.

All states, including Massachusetts, would take on new risks and costs because this proposal converts the overall Medicaid program into a per capita cap. Under this proposal, the federal government would cap its payments to states for most enrollees, and those caps would grow more slowly than actual Medicaid expenditures, leaving Massachusetts with insufficient funding to meet its current obligations. In addition, states would be fully exposed to any unexpected health care cost increases, such as from a natural disaster, an aging population or medical innovations. The per capita cap alone would reduce federal Medicaid spending by 12% (\$1,079 billion) by 2036.

On top of those cost shifts, the 31 states that expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act will be at risk for far deeper cuts. This proposal ends all federal matching funds for the Medicaid expansion in 2020. Some of the funds that the federal government would have spent on Medicaid expansion get rolled into the block grant, but the block grant doesn't make up for Massachusetts' losses because the block grant is inadequate overall, the formula favors non-expansion states (it redistributes funding from expansion to non-expansion states), and it ends entirely in 2026, leaving states with no funding to replace the lost expansion funds.

Because federal dollars for Medicaid account for about 20% of state budgets, FitchRatings “believes substantial Medicaid cuts would require states to make material budget adjustments over the next decade and beyond.”^[3] And by pulling coverage from so many, this proposal would drive up uncompensated care costs on local communities, state budgets, safety net providers, and hospitals.

Increases premiums and out-of-pocket costs and destabilizes the individual market.

By repealing the individual mandate and eliminating advanced premium tax credits and cost sharing reductions, this proposal would drive up premiums and cause insurers to exit the ACA's marketplaces. As we know from previous CBO projections, repealing the individual mandate alone would increase the number of uninsured individuals by 15 million and cause premiums to increase by 20 percent. Furthermore, by replacing the financing of the ACA's financial assistance with a block grant without any guarantee that states would direct their temporary block grant funds toward financial assistance, this proposal puts Massachusetts residents who currently rely on financial assistance at risk for sharply higher out-of-pocket costs and coverage loss.

Beyond the impact of this proposal on individuals, insurers currently selling in the Health Connector would face extreme uncertainty. Because this proposal allows states to change the market reform rules under the ACA and because there are no requirements or standards on how states must use the block granted money, insurers would likely face completely unpredictable risk pools. To make up for this uncertainty, insurers would likely impose large premium increases to protect themselves from unpredictable claims costs or choose to exit the marketplace completely. This means that consumers who purchase coverage on the individual market would likely have fewer coverage options, much higher premiums and no guarantee of financial assistance to shield them from the increasing out-of-pocket costs.

Eliminates critical consumer protections.

This proposal allows states to eliminate one of the most popular and important consumer protections under the ACA - the prohibition on charging higher premiums based on a person's health status or a preexisting condition. This means that in states that choose to eliminate this requirement, insurers could charge individuals with even relatively mild pre-existing conditions thousands of dollars above standard rates to obtain the same coverage as someone without a preexisting condition. Additionally, this proposal allows states to waive the requirement that insurers cover essential health benefits including mental health services, substance abuse treatments and maternity care. This could lead to discrimination against segments of the population (e.g., older adults, LGBT community) or consumers with specific chronic conditions (e.g. mental health or substance use disorders). For example, this could return us to a time when insurers only covered short-term, minimal treatment for mental health or substance use disorders, if they covered it at all. Before the ACA, almost half of plans in the individual market excluded addiction treatment.

Lacks transparency and opportunity for meaningful input.

We believe that everyone should have a say in the decisions that affect their health. With only one hearing scheduled days before a possible vote, and without a full CBO score to properly evaluate the budgetary and coverage loss impacts, it is impossible to have an open and deliberative process that would allow for a true evaluation of and meaningful input on the policies in this proposal that would affect millions of people and one

sixth of the US economy. We encourage a return to “regular order,” as requested by many members of the Senate and supported by the American public, which would require the opportunity for stakeholders, including industry experts, providers, consumers and state policymakers to weigh in.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal. This legislation would have extremely detrimental impacts on millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents. We are hopeful this legislation will not move forward.

Sincerely,

Rosaleen Doherty, CEO

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]prises, LLC dba [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Salem, MA 01970

[1] Center for American Progress, “Coverage Losses by State Under the Graham-Cassidy Bill to Repeal the ACA”, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/healthcare/news/2017/09/20/439277/coverage-losses-state-graham-cassidy-bill-repeal-aca/>.

[2] Avalere, “Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill Would Reduce Federal Funding to States by \$215 Billion”, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/healthcare/news/2017/09/20/439277/coverage-losses-state-graham-cassidy-bill-repeal-aca/>.

[3] “Fitch: Latest ACA Bill Includes Medicaid Repeal and Replace Provisions for States”, <https://www.fitchratings.com/site/pr/1029238>.

Rosaleen Doherty

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Terry Sturmer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:34 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 has not been enough research into the effects of removing the ACA. Dealing with preexisting conditions was one of the best features of the ACA. AND improving and expanding the ACA and giving access to affordable health care should become a national priority not the misguided promises of some campaign. Why should afford able healthcare be limited by the profits of ,insurers? Time for single payer.

Terry Sturmer

19064
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dorie Chamberlain [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham Cassidy

I am writing to tell you how terrible this bill will be. Why does the GOP want to take away health care for so many who now have come to depend on it. You seem to be happier destroying the ACA than making it work. This is a terrible bill that will only cause harm to many. I may perhaps put money in the pockets of the few and very wealthy. People do not deserve to become bankrupt should they become ill. The bill lies about preexisting conditions not being eliminated - if you can't afford to pay for insurance, it's of no help to anyone. If your state opts out, you are ruined. Please, please fix what we have - make it work - fix the higher premiums that were caused by improper funding of the ACA in the hopes of getting rid of it.

Please do not pass this bill.

Dorie Chamberlain
Los Angeles CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joy Sabl [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am deeply concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Devolving money to the states while allowing, encouraging, and de facto forcing states to cap Medicaid and Medicare payments is deeply counterproductive.

Before Obamacare, I had a friend refuse to start insulin treatment, because she also needed treatment for a slow-healing leg injury, and couldn't afford both. A friend waited, during a stroke, hoping it would wear off, or "turn out to be a TIA"--because "she needed to be able to afford her asthma treatment."

Frankly, someone who's in the grips of a life-altering medical problem is primed to make bad choices (especially when there are no good ones). Multiplied by thousands of people, those choices are also bad for entire communities.

From a hard-nosed fiscal standpoint, our ultimate medical goal should be to encourage people to get essential care, and to do it before they lose function, lose autonomy, and lose all ability to be contributing members of society. Time lost is brain lost; disease untreated is damage done; lost brain and bodily damage are a drag on the health, wealth and productivity of our citizenry.

Instead of ringing a death knell for our Federal programs, why not fight to let people buy into Medicare and/or Medicaid? People are ready and willing to put their own hard-earned dollars into the system, in the name of reliability and portability. It's inconceivable to me why we would instead treat Medicare and Medicaid as unfundable, and throw people off of these very effective programs.

I know some Senators and Congresspeople (the ones with an "R" after their name, in particular) have an ideological distrust of Medicare for all. They generally don't want more people's payments to come FROM the federal government, and OUT of the taxpayer's pocket.

I know some (D's and R's, in odd combinations) don't much like the now-discarded Obamacare mandate. The idea of the government levying fines from people who don't patronize a business is admittedly problematic. It's money coming into the system under legal compulsion.

But why on earth would anyone disapprove of payments coming INTO the system, VOLUNTARILY, from PRIVATE individuals?

Instead of supporting Graham-Cassidy, please work towards a Medicare buy-in option. It has broad support, and is broadly ideologically defensible.

Finally, if you support (for example) the Federal interstate highway system--which creates markets and increases business-readiness of the entire US precisely because it is universal--ask yourself if a universal health care system, and a truly healthy population would be any less of a driver of markets and business-readiness.

Joy Sabl

15208


Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeffrey Schantz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC on ACA

I have crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis, have had it my entire adult life. Without continued care and access to drugs like remicade, I probably would have died by now.

Don't return us to the days where insurers can deny you for pre-existing conditions.

And remember: One day, the tragedy happens to you, your family, your child. On that day, your going to want to know everything will be ok.

Make it ok. Do the right thing. Do not repeal. Do not replace.

Repair and renew.

Jeffrey Lee Schantz AIA, NCARB

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert W McMillan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against the Graham-Cassidy Bill

We are against the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill primarily because it compromises the guarantee of insurance for those with preexisting conditions. We believe that Democrats and Republicans must get together and come up with a healthcare solution that will fix Obamacare's problems without compromising its good features.

Thanks,

Ann and Robert McMillan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah J Cornwall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I'm shocked that the majority would even consider moving to pass bill that is so hostile to the true health and welfare of the American public. This bill is blatantly political, a virtual political knife fight, that doesn't truly consider the economic or healthcare needs of your constituents. I am a cancer survivor, and if I weren't on Medicare, I'd be terrified of the implications of this bill for people with pre-existing conditions. I have a friend whose 6-year-old is a cancer survivor, and another whose 10-year-old has juvenile diabetes. Both are self-employed and will face horrific insurance costs and risks if you pass this bill.

We deserve better and you can do better. Please move to regular order and develop a bipartisan way of improving on our current system, rather than tossing it out and voting on a bill before we know the CBO implications. You work for the American public, and the public deserves a more responsible and responsive approach to restructuring the healthcare sector. There's a reason why healthcare providers and insurance companies oppose what they know about the bill.

I beg you to do the right thing and stop forcing this through just because the clock is ticking.

Deborah J. Cornwall

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce Nelsen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Comment

- People with disabilities rely on Medicaid, and the per capita caps and cuts included in Graham-Cassidy will jeopardize our health, threaten our independence, and put lives at risk.
- The Medicaid cuts in Graham-Cassidy will limit access to home and community-based services, which will result in more disabled people and older adults being forced into costly institutions.
- Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions will make coverage unaffordable for many - and many of those are people with disabilities.
- Also, share your personal story! Tell them how Graham-Cassidy will impact you personally!

Kind Regards
Bruce Nelsen

[REDACTED]
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Cartwright [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

This bill is not good enough for the American people.

- We need a bill that uses the combined purchasing power of all the state to reduce healthcare cost. There by allowing more people to pay their own way.
- Preexisting conditions must be covered.
- People must be covered without limit.

The purpose of the Federal Government is to protect the American people. We are more likely to die from health related issues and accidents than terrorist. Please get your priorities in order and come up with a healthcare system as strong as our military.

A poorly written and weak healthcare will was not what we asked for when you were elected. Do it right and don't make it worse than what we have now.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephany Hayden [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 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 terrible and will allow millions of people to be uninsured. This cannot happen. My family needs affordable health care. We have pre existing conditions. Do the right thing! Vote No! Fix the ACA. It can be done if you work together.

Stephany Hayden

18446
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maeve Duffey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to plead with you and all the other Senators to NOT pass this bill. Its passage will hurt SO many Americans who currently depend on the ACA and its Medicaid benefits.

I lost my job before I reached retirement age and would have NO health insurance if it were not for the ACA! There are many of us who are just hanging on and in need of affordable insurance. And, most of us who are older DO have pre-existing conditions and must be protected from high premiums which translate into NO health insurance at all. We have all worked for many decades and don't deserve to go bankrupt because of health costs. NO other country allows this to happen to its citizens! The United States touts itself as the most prosperous country in the world, but it never feels that way to its citizens. Only the 1% feel that, and they can afford medical bills that the rest of us cannot.

I have heard Republican Senators lying about the disbursement of ACA funding and saying that it has been inequitable. The ONLY reason percentages are not the same is because of states who rejected the funding! THAT was the choice of Republican Governors, who hurt their states and now want to hurt everyone with the implementation of this bill!

Why aren't "We, the People" considered in these decisions that impact us all? The majority of American citizens are against the Graham-Cassidy bill and would like to see Medicare for All.....a universal system that covers everyone equally!

So, please stop taking actions for only yourselves and your donors and start working for the people who pay your salaries.

Fix the ACA and start turning it into universal care, so that we truly have liberty and justice for ALL!
Do not pass this draconian G/C bill.

Thank you for considering my plea, and I hope you will act in good faith for the people and the common good.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Tienstra [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:31 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 been vetted by physicians, insurance companies or Democrats. This bill is being rushed through for partisan reasons and will harm millions of Americans, especially those like me with pre-existing conditions. Do your jobs. Slow down and stop the nonsense. You were elected to help us, not line your pockets.

Kathleen Tienstra

18051
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Douglas Gunn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:31 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 would transfer millions of dollars in Medicaid spending to the States. Instead of the open-ended federal share for Medicaid spending under current law, the Federal Government would give a fixed amount in Block grants to states. Since states are required by their Constitutions or by statute to balance their budgets, this means that in the event of epidemics; new, expensive, medical technology; and aging populations, states would be forced to reduce benefits, payments to providers, or transfer funds from other vital programs like education.

Douglas Gunn

19460
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Rogers [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators: Please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill! If it passes, countless Americans will suffer and die. Read John Cassidy's piece in The New Yorker: <https://www.newyorker.com/news/john-cassidy/the-graham-cassidy-bill-is-a-potential-disaster> or "Senator Cassidy, Please Stop Lying About Health Care" in The NY Times: <http://tinyurl.com/y9a52dpf> ! I implore you to listen to reason and think of your constituents and vote NO!
Susan Rogers
susan.vivian@gmail.com

Susan Rogers

08002
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Jones <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: ASlavitt@senate.gov
Subject: Bill to repeal ACA

With each iteration of the bill to repeal the ACA, we despair more over the grievous lack of compassion demonstrated by the bills' backers in Congress.

It is indicative of their loyalty to special interests only when they persist with the unconscionable inhumane bill, even with the vast majority of "WE the people" being against it.

SHAME upon them.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Cramer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

I am concerned that it is being rushed.

I am concerned that it does nothing to help the American people. Further, I am concerned it HARMS the American people.

I am concerned the Graham-Cassidy Bill is no more than just another item on a political grudge list.

I am concerned that if this bill should pass, I will have to make the choice of either going without healthcare--because my lower middle class salary surely won't be able to cover it since I have a preexisting condition through no fault of my own--or leaving the United States. I know I am not alone.

We are the "greatest nation in the world" and yet we cannot take care of our own citizens? Figure this out, folks.

Erin Cramer

17603
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Dyas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

There are many aspects of the Graham-Cassidy Bill that are of concern to me, but one of my most pressing concerns is that this bill removes checks on for-profit insurance companies. If insurance companies are not forced to offer coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, they are not going to do it, and what they do offer will be at exorbitantly high rates. I can't even totally hate the insurance companies because a corporation's only job is to generate value for their stockholders. I can, however, hold our government responsible for setting limits. **It is our government's job to stand up for the most vulnerable among us - and this bill does the opposite.**

Last year I took my son to urgent care because he was complaining of stomach pain that wasn't going away. On the way to the doctors office he was nodding off and spiked a fever. The doctor at the urgent care facility couldn't rule out appendicitis, and sent us to the emergency room at Oakland Children's Hospital. At the hospital, they gave him some Tylenol, and by the time we were seen by a doctor his fever had started to come down and he was perking up again. Just one of those things, the doctor said.

A few weeks later we got a bill from the hospital for \$1,800 - we have insurance, but they had not entered a number properly. \$1,800 for Tylenol and about 15 total minutes of face-to-face time with all of the doctors and nurses we interacted with that day. Luckily we had insurance, but what if we hadn't? We are a two income family, and that would have hurt - it would be financial ruin for the families that I work with in my professional life.

- We are the only developed country that does not offer universal health care - let's do better.
- Women should not pay more for health services, including pre-natal and maternity care.
- Charging premiums for pre-existing conditions is just cruel.

Finally, this whole battle to repeal the ACA is starting to feel like sour grapes. Health care for all American citizens is a good thing. Work to make it better, but stop with the drama.

Lisa Dyas
Alameda, CA

--

Lisa Dyas

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: alisha jansky <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey); ajansky@gmail.com
Subject: Opposition to the 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. 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.

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 approximately 665,000 Massachusetts residents losing coverage by 2027 and will undermine the financial stability of our health care system and place additional fiscal strains on our state budget.

With only one hearing scheduled days before a possible vote, and without a full CBO score to properly evaluate the budgetary and coverage loss impacts, it is impossible to have an open and deliberative process that would allow for a true evaluation of and meaningful input on the policies in this proposal that would affect millions of people and one sixth of the US economy.

This legislation would have extremely detrimental impacts on millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents. Please do not allow this legislation will not move forward.

Sincerely,

Alisha Jansky

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Brofka-Berends [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:30 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 a huge step backwards for health care in our country. It will remove benefits from millions of Americans, and reduce access to health care services for many more. This is an unacceptable but severe step backward.

We citizens are watching how our representatives vote for this, and we expect you to do what's right, representing our interests and those of all Americans.

Jan Brofka-Berends

19341
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Lovett [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:29 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 strips coverage from millions of poor, elderly, needy people. Please cast a vote of no.

Maureen Lovett

Maureen Lovett

30341
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gloria Ahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the SFC hearing for Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm incredibly fortunate that I was born healthy and have been healthy for the majority of my life. However, I know that a good health is not guaranteed. I know this because 4 out of the 5 people closest to me have pre-existing health issues. My mom has had heart surgery to replace one of her arteries with a mechanical one, my sister has scoliosis, my boyfriend has a rare heart condition that requires him to take medicine everyday with regular check ups, and a close friend has three different eye conditions. They are hard working American citizens who contribute to their communities. The pre-existing conditions protections and the ban on lifetime caps have been a vital part to them not only getting the healthcare they deserve, but also to healthcare they can afford.

Please do not pass Graham-Cassidy. Please do not put the lives of the people closest to me at risk. I ask that you vote in the interest of real people, real people like my family and friends.

Thank you,
Gloria Ahn
San Francisco, CA 94107

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Regina Yann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:29 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 the bill is just like other TrumpCare bills in that it destroys Medicaid as we know it by turning Medicaid into a capped system. This hurts children with disabilities, seniors, and even victims of natural disasters like Harvey and Irma. It also takes away funding to help people afford health insurance through the marketplace, and it hurts states that have expanded Medicaid.

Regina Yann

19066
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Darren Stephens <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is a dire, desperate, cynical and horrible piece of legislation

To Whom It May Concern,

Your name and your party (of course, the Republican party) will be tied forever to a piece of legislation that ends protections for many people, including the disabled, children and the elderly. Millions of people will lose healthcare and many will die.

WE WILL NOT FORGET YOU AND WHAT YOU DID TO HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA!! Your constituents (those who are not the wealthy this is aimed at assisting) will suffer badly. They are deeply uninformed if they support this, but once they realize the full impact of the legislation on themselves and their families, they will look for someone to blame, and they will find you.

I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL TO REPEAL THE ACA!

Darren Stephens

[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60622

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steven Struck [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:28 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 my mother is a Medicaid nursing home recipient and I am someone living with a chronic pre-existing condition (MS). We cannot afford to scale back Medicaid and deny millions of Americans access to affordable healthcare, and we cannot set limits on coverage for those with chronic illnesses whose medications keep them alive and in the work force. This bill would be devastating!

Steven Struck

19078
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Givens [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: John Givens
Subject: Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

September 21, 2017

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I write to you as the parent of a 5-year old daughter with PHACE Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that causes - for her - a congenital heart defect, loss of hearing, and other symptoms. She is a fierce, smart, funny and beautiful young lady who is taking this world by storm.

She had complex heart surgery as a baby and continues to get great care - all paid for through my employer-provided insurance. Our family of four works hard to have the resources we need to live a comfortable life. No fancy vacations or private schools. Just good dinners at home and day-trips to the local beach. However, we would be financially devastated if we had to bear the full cost of our daughter's healthcare.

In your hands rests the most important decision for children like my daughter and for all people with illness in all circumstances: whether or not to vote for the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I write to ask you to oppose this bill, not because I believe that the Affordable Care Act is perfect. Far from it—I believe that the ACA can, and should, be reformed and improved upon if people of good will and conscience come together to work sincerely to do so.

I ask you to oppose the bill because it will threaten the health insurance stability—and access to critical care and supports—of all people with chronic illness and disability who currently have private insurance.

Because the ACA requires that—no matter what pre-existing condition our children have—they have access to health insurance, my family and the millions of others like us do not face the impossible financial burdens that their medical bills would otherwise cause. Should the states be left with the option to be waived—or to waive insurers—from this requirement, many of our children and their families would be faced with terrible choices and outcomes.

The ACA has given my family and the families I know peace of mind—release from the constant anxiety about whether the next procedure, or the next piece of equipment, or the next critical therapy, will be accessible to our beautiful, loved children (whether little ones, or adults). Instead of managing this worry, we can concentrate on our children and their well-being.

There is work to do to make the ACA better, to make insurance and pharmaceuticals more affordable, to improve the efficiency of our systems. But this does not require us to act inhumanely, or to fly in the face of what we know to be the honest, good gains of the ACA.

My daughter may not be your constituent, but today, all Americans are your constituents.

Please, think long and hard about what a vote to repeal the ACA would mean for the most vulnerable of your fellow citizens and their families.

I urge you to imagine the greatest good that could be achieved here instead if you put people first, and ideology and foolhardy campaign promises to the side.

I ask you to reflect on the simple question, "What if this was my child?" and then vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Givens

Berkeley, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments; Jim Baker
Subject: GCH Comment

As an advocate as well as an individual with a disability I am very concerned with the proposed health care initiative and the potential impact on those individuals who rely on Medicaid to live and function in the community. The disabled community is legitimately stressed with the uncertainty of there lives and future. I don't believe that there concerns are being seriously taken into consideration. I further don't believe that the individuals who will be voting on the proposed bill clearly understand the content and it's potential ramifications to those at greatest risk. I feel this important legislative initiative needs to be vetted and clearly understood before it is unjustly approved for the wrong or perceived wrong reasons. There are many people in this nation who are counting on each of you to do the right thing. I therefore encourage you to vote no until you are certain that those individuals most vulnerable are protected and those with pre existing conditions are able to obtain and purchase affordable health insurance.

Sincerely, Thomas DeLilla

Sent from Samsung tablet

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: anne [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: anne
Subject: "Healthcare"bill

This so-called "healthcare" bill is a despicable travesty . It would create a death sentence for the millions of people who will no longer be able to afford insurance, medications , or the healthcare they need to survive. This will be devastating for everyone but most especially for veterans , the poor, people with disabilities, the very young, the elderly, and people with preexisting conditions. It is unconscionable.

The Republicans, with their alternative morals, have not devised this bill by following the accepted and usual procedures such as bipartisanship discussions and input, hearings, and reviews. They are more interested in lining their own pockets with bribes from insurance companies and big pharm than listening to and supporting the people who voted them into office. Despicable!

They need to stop voting for the good of the Party and/or trump and start voting for America and it's people. If they think this "healthcare" bill is as fabulous as they claim, then they should be forced to use it for their healthcare and give up their "all expenses paid" insurance program. Shame on these heartless, rapacious, lying, hypocrites.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Mancill [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:26 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 does not protect the most vulnerable among us and that is just wrong. Imagine facing a serious diagnosis knowing that you must reject treatment because you cannot afford it. This is the most wealthy country in the world. We can do so much better. Please vote no!

Sincerely,
B. Mancill

Barbara Mancill

19348
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Louise Hayes [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:26 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 would cause millions of Pennsylvanians to lose health insurance. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, Pennsylvania would lose over \$12 billion in federal dollars between 2020 and 2026, which it could not replace with state dollars given its fiscal situation. The state would be forced to either cut people off Medicaid, cut services, or cut reimbursement rates. None of these is okay: all Pennsylvanians need high-quality health care.

I ask you to vote NO on any cuts or per capita caps in Medicaid, and NO on waiver authority that allows cuts in services in Medicaid or the marketplaces.

Thank you for accepting comments on this crucial bill.

Louise Hayes

19119
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurie Tredway [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE don't pass this bill

My son was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at age 13. He is now 24 years old and has been dealing with changes in medications and is now having Remicade infusions every other month which costs thousands of dollars. Without the ACA, he would not be able to afford these life-saving methods. He would not have qualified for ANY affordable insurance. I'm afraid that if you leave it up to the states to determine who "deserves" equal coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, my son will suffer. Our state of Nebraska is not very sympathetic to those with chronic illnesses.

Now, my 8-year-old granddaughter is being test for Crohn's. It just isn't fair that these young people should suffer with inadequate care b/c they can't afford the insurance.

I beg you to reconsider passing this bill. People will, once again, be losing their homes and life savings to pay for medical care for themselves and loved ones.

THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY!

Laurie Tredway
Lincoln NE 68516

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Itzo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

My wife and I are retired and are both on Social Security and Medicare. We still have to pay out of pocket over \$10,000 a year for medicine, hospitals and doctors. If this bill is passed, we will have to sell our home. You can't possibly approve of this bill that will devastate and kill millions of Americans! Step into our shoes!!

Thank You

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Rau [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 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 great concern it will not cover people with pre-existing conditions. Health care should be a right, not a privilege.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Rau

Elizabeth Rau

19426
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Kende [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Don't repeal/replace the ACA! The Graham-Cassidy bill is a broad-scale and deep disaster for the country – that's your country and mine, your family and mine. The new bill does not cover people well enough to be called "healthcare". It basically says: "we couldn't care less about health". For example, "You got cancer again? Sorry, you've hit your lifetime cap, there is no further coverage, and if you cannot afford treatment (which only wealthiest can), just go and die". The fundamental concept and purpose of insurance is to pool the resources of all, to help pay for the relatively few, if and when they need it. We have mandatory car insurance, and health insurance should work the same way, for the same reasons.

The proposed plan does not cover pre existing conditions, women's health needs and decimates funding for Medicare and Medicaid. And premiums will increase beyond the current astronomical rates. Approval of this legislative proposal would inflict harm and sacrifice people's lives in the callous attempt to deliver on ill-conceived and crassly pandering campaign promises playing to the biases of the basest part of the Republican base.

We can all see the outlines of the disastrous outcome, but the strategy to turn the plan into law, tries to prevent proper objective evaluation by the Congressional Budget Office, in order to avoid a storm of objections before the vote comes. Quit sneaking legislation past the normal legislative process. The integrity-free behavior of the congressional leadership is both shameless and shameful. Accept your responsibility and work to make affordable healthcare a right in this country, not a privilege accessible only to the wealthy! Get input from all sides and let the non-partisan CBO evaluate it.

Sincerely, Paul Kende

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kerry B [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy bill

I'm writing to express my deep concern about the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

My first request would be that Congress not to vote on a bill that would have such a huge impact without waiting for a score from the CBO. A complete understanding of the bill's impact on Americans is needed before a vote can happen; to do otherwise is unconscionable.

The language in the bill that loosens protections for pre-existing conditions is another grave point of concern. My family would be directly impacted; my daughter is autistic and her treatment is covered by insurance. The extra costs being predicted would effectively price her out of healthcare coverage -- and out of the applied behavior analysis treatment our family relies on for her.

The drastic reduction to Medicaid funds is also worrisome, given that my disabled daughter will likely rely on Medicaid in the future. For senior citizens and my daughter's community, this is an enormous worry.

Nothing I have read about this bill convinces me that it will bring healthcare to more Americans. Millions of people will lose coverage. The goal of this bill is clearly not to help Americans or to improve the healthcare system, but to pay for tax cuts.

I support repairing the ACA with bipartisan committees, not repealing it in a way that harms our country's most vulnerable.

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy bill.

Kerry Blankenship
Lafayette, Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandi Burnside [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy Bill

This bill is cruel and abhorrent. We taxpayers deserve better than this. If you are unable to look at the human cost, think of the economic costs. This affect a huge percentage of our economy. Our nation cannot afford this.

Sandra Burnside

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassity Bill

NO to this bill. It is nothing more than a political ploy to punish red states and reward blue states on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens. It punishes women and children by denying newborn, pregnancy and prenatal care. Prenatal and pregnancy care makes for healthy babies. Newborn children without it are more likely to suffer birth defects. No newborn care denies treatment to infants who need it. It denies coverage for birth control. Women don't get pregnant alone. Birth control prevents unwanted pregnancy and results in fewer abortions. Denial of prescription drugs, rehab and mental health coverage punishes the most vulnerable. This causes increased homeless. This bill is an atrocity! It will increase the cost of healthcare as well as ignore prevention. Just because Congress isn't impacted by this doesn't mean the rest of us won't suffer.

Andrea Globokar
84103

Sent from Xfinity Connect Mobile App

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Question for Graham/Cassidy Hearing

Will Graham/Cassidy require insurance companies to cover substance use disorders? It is estimated that over 70,000 Americans will die from overdose next year which is more than the amount of lives lost during the entire Vietnam war.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: evelyn eisenhardt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop Graham-Cassidy!

The Graham Cassidy bill is a terrible piece of legislation and will hurt many Americans. Please do the right thing and support working families by stopping any further progress of this bill.

Thank you, Evelyn F. Eisenhardt
Glastonbury, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: oarkas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

I want to ask you DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA.

If you do you will have destroyed our entire medical care system for millions of Americans. Literally!
Many of us have had illnesses. Removing the ACA protections for those with "pre existing conditions" will kill or bankrupt millions.
Removing the protections from having caps on spending will do the same.
Removing the provision that requires that a certain percentage of money must pay for actual medical care will lessen the money available for real treatment.
There is more, but let me move on.
The ACA has slowed the increase in medical costs. They have not increased as much as they were doing before the ACA. Check it and you'll see.
More people now have medical care than ever before. This makes for a healthier and more productive America. This actually saves money.
Instead of blindly following the same dumb and unsuccessful plan of "repeal" over and over, why don't you really IMPROVE the ACA? Why don't you negotiate lower costs for pharmaceuticals?

FINALLY, just look at the huge numbers showing that 60% or more of American citizens are DEMANDING that you do not pass these destructive repeals!!!

ARE YOU LISTENING?

Do NOT pass this latest harmful and dangerous so-called health plan.

You will only kill many of us. Let me emphasize that. MANY OF US WILL DIE as a result of your actions.

John Pappas

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

To Whom it May Concern,

I want to express my frustration with Graham Cassidy. We should be working to offer healthcare to more Americans--not less. This bill is opposed by physicians and insurers alike.

That this bill got even this far is an embarrassment, and it should not pass.

Sincerely,

M. Brown
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Mary Grady [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: my life depends on obamacare

Hello, I am a self-employed freelance writer, and have been working on my own since 1999. Besides writing, I also teach college courses, on a part-time basis. I am so glad to have plenty of work and steady clients so I can work at home and do work that's challenging and meaningful for me. Unfortunately, in my field, full-time staff jobs are very rare and becoming even harder to find. For many years I worried about the health insurance options that I had, but I was healthy and just tried to get the best plan I could that was affordable. I remember being shocked when I found that my policy had a lifetime limit that was, if I remember right, only about \$100,000. In other words, I would pay and pay and pay, and then if I ever had a real problem where I really needed the insurance, I would be screwed. It's shameful how many people in America have been driven into bankruptcy by medical bills.

Then in 2014 I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. I've had two surgeries and go to weekly chemo treatments. My disease at this point is minimal and stable, so I'm very lucky, but there is no cure for me. It's worked out that it's lucky I'm self-employed and work at home, since it would be impossible for me to manage a full-time job while dealing with all my treatments, doctor visits, and side effects. Because I work at home, I'm able to remain productive and self-supporting. Luckily, the provisions of Obamacare have protected me, and I am fully covered. The premiums and co-pays still are high -- about \$10K a year -- but I am so grateful to have the coverage and know that I can depend on it.

Please don't take this away from me, and others like me. I have a pre-existing condition, so how would I ever get insurance? I have worked hard to save for retirement, but I'm a single person, and I don't have a lot of assets. It wouldn't take long for me to run out of money. Please, before you run off doing things that you will hope will satisfy your campaign donors, give some thought to how it will affect real people like me, people who have worked hard and contributed to their communities, and don't deserve to be driven into bankruptcy because they were so unlucky as to get a terrible diagnosis.

thank you,

Mary Grady
Warwick, Rhode Island

Mary Grady
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sam Zalutsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:03 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee Members:

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state, 90 seconds of debate? How is this a democratic process?

If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill.

Sincerely,
Sam Zalutsky
New York, New York

Check out my new movie [REDACTED] on Facebook or Instagram.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: YouKnow WhoIAm [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Affordable Care Act aka ACA

My name is Denise Martinez. I have been disabled since before 1992. If the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is repealed I may very well be handed a death sentence.

Again, if the ACA is repealed, I have grandchildren with preexisting medical conditions who face losing coverage for their medical care/medicine(s). Are you really willing to hand them potential death sentences as well? They are my grandbabies -- young and old -- but my grandbabies nonetheless. If they lose medical care/medications, I will regularly send pictures of them/their condition to each and everyone who votes to repeal the ACA.

Please do not repeal the ACA. It is a lifeline for so many American -- young and old.

Denise Martinez

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Please do not let this law pass. It is a Killer plan and must be stopped! People like me, 79 years old and children and disabled will die!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: don goldkamp [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health

My name is Don Goldkamp and I am a survivor of advanced prostate cancer. I can't imagine how devastated it would have been for me if I have no insurance when this happened. I also cannot imagine what it would be like if I was denied insurance because of an existing condition. There are a lot of people like myself that have these problems and without proper health insurance would be destroyed. Not everyone has the fine health insurance that you have in the government. Please consider what it would be like for you under those conditions and consider what it would do to the people who voted you in. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Callahan-Boyd, Kara E. <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: A brother and A nephew

To Whom it May Concern,

I have a brother who suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury two years ago, he was in a coma for two weeks and had to reconstruct his entire life not only to rehabilitate physically, but he now lives with Brain damage every day.

Luckily, with Obamacare he qualifies for Medicaid and after two years in a Traumatic Brain Hospital, he was move to a rehab assisted living where he has mentors, programs, therapy and a quality of live. He is highly functional but will never be the same and cannot live on his own. He is moving into his new apartment today with a roommate and mentors below. He now has a job loading and unloading boxes for Kmart. He used to be a photographer but due to damage to his eyes and tremors in his hands, he cannot perform that role anymore. He finally is getting on his feet and feels like he has a life back, not his lost life but at least a life with purpose, assistance and he is working in society.

Please don't take that away from him. Save Obamacare!

My nephew is special needs due to a birth deficiency. He was born with a neurological impairment, bi-polar and ADHD. He has gone through the school system, even went to a Special Needs College Program and graduated. He also will never be able to be fully on his own but desperately wants to be in an environment that is immersive with activity and friends for his level and skill set. There are programs out there to assist, but they need the support of Obamacare. My nephew wants to be a part of society and have an immersive, interactive and fulfilling life.

Please don't take that away from him. Vote against this appeal.

What the Graham-Cassidy Bill Does:

- It eliminates the Medicaid program as we know it and ends the entitlement by placing a per-capita cap on the traditional Medicaid population and block granting funding for the expansion population until 2026. After 2026 there will be no funding for this population.
- It places the Essential Health Benefits at risk and allows states to remove covered services like rehabilitative care, opioid treatment, and mental health treatment.
- It allows insurance companies to discriminate against people with pre-existing conditions, such as brain injury, and all but guaranteeing these individuals will pay higher premiums, and potentially be priced out of the market.

I am contacting you to let you that I want you him to vote **against** the passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,

Kara Boyd

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Pride [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 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 dangerous to raise a Bill that would affect the health of millions of people without thorough, public debate!

Elizabeth Pride

19143
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Reverend Sandra Mackie, RN [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am extremely concerned about the Graham-Cassidy Bill currently being pushed through the Senate.

It is better, less expensive, and more efficient to provide people with quality healthcare and access to preventive medicine. Repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and substituting a bill that does not standardize health care across the country violates the basic concept of equal human rights in our democratic society.

Without healthcare people will be sicker, miss more work, and generally be less productive in their lives.

The job of Congress is to fix the ACA and provide the American people with a path to healthy, productive lives.

What an embarrassment to live in the wealthiest, most powerful country in the history of the world and see the government trying to take basic healthcare away from its own citizens.

Do NOT repeal the ACA. Make it better. Or face an army of people working to defeat those who vote to repeal the ACA. Period.

Reverend Sandra Mackie, RN

17325
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lindsey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy!

I do NOT support the Graham-Cassidy bill. We all have pre-existing conditions, and we always will. This will have a devastating effect on people with disabilities, families, children, each and every one of us. Nobody asks for the body they are given, and nobody can stop themselves from getting older, and nobody can be safe from accidents all the time.

People will lose everything they have.

People will die.

This will destabilize our entire nation. This is a matter of national security.

We are not asking for the government to give us everything to be free. We are asking the government to establish policies that are FAIR to the people and give us a fighting chance in this world.

My friend's child is about to be born with a heart defect. That will be a preexisting condition. GOP politicians can NOT pretend to care about "life" and babies on the one hand, and then pull this kind of legislation with the other.

Please. We will die.

Lindsey Hoskins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], MN 55406

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharyn Glowatz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 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 I believe everyone in this country is entitled to healthcare regardless of income, pre-existing conditions, age etc. This bill is not FOR the people. It is working against us. Please for the love of the American people do not pass this bill.

Sharyn Glowatz

11743
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theodore Burger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:00 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 is unfair to the people it is supposed to help.....

Theodore Burger

18017
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Dintenfass [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 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 would severely hurt residents of PA. This latest attempt to repeal the ACA is the worst yet. Congress should be working, in a bipartisan effort, to develop a plan to improve health care (not just "access" to health care) for all Americans. Meanwhile, the ACA is actually working. The independent markets should be supported until a new bipartisan plan is developed and approved through all proper channels including analysis by the Budget Office. To rush anything through is just plain wrong.

Debbie Dintenfass

19390
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tasha van Es [mailto:tasvan@pepperell.com]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In strong opposition to Graham Cassidy.

Today, I sat with my daughter as she woke up from her fourth ear surgery in her young life; she is six, and has been going to a specialist since was less than a year old. There is nothing my then infant daughter did to deserve a chronic condition, nor to require ongoing medical treatment for the indefinite future, possibly her entire life. Yet, for simply existing and needing medical care, our family would be harshly punished under the proposed act. This is unconscionable in a nation which has up until recently, prided itself as being an inclusive, caring, pluralistic society. My daughter is a joyful and tough girl - she does not complain about the procedures she must have, the countless visits to doctors we have made.

She makes her teachers laugh, and often lifts the spirits of adults and kids alike. She can grow up to contribute in many ways, unimpeded on the big scale from becoming a doctor, or a chef, or a teacher, or a military strategist if she is so inclined.

I cannot for the life of me fathom why the Senators want to harm children and those who are most vulnerable, for political gain. Of course, my concerns do not stop with my daughter's chronic illness. Both of my daughters may someday become expectant mothers. Will they have access to the pre-natal coverage I was able to leverage while I was pregnant with them? Will they be fortunate to have uncomplicated pregnancies as I was, and if not, will there be appropriate care available for them? Will any one of us face breast or ovarian cancer in our lifetimes? I am being closely watched by my doctors for risk of breast cancer, and have regular diagnostic, not screening, mammograms and ultrasounds. Will these or similar preventative tools be available to them? Have either of my girls inherited the genetic condition I learned of at age 44, for which I will need my own treatment for life?

This plan contains *NO* essential protections and is devastating to women from all backgrounds because it gives a blank slate to insurers to pretty much make up any terms they see fit.

I am calling upon the members of Congress to vote this down for the incredibly negative impact it will have upon millions of Americans' lives.

After all, a healthy society is one that can offer its people the tools to better health.

Tasha van Es
Pepperell, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: defeat GrahamCassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing to let you know that passing GrahamCassidy would be a very grave mistake which will not be forgotten by the voters of this country. This bill, if passed, will devastate the Medicaid program, increase out-of-pockets costs and weaken protections for people living with pre-existing conditions. It would disrupt health care for many millions of Americans for years and years to come.

I have worked with disabled children and young adults for the past 42 years. These individuals, through no fault of their own, may depend on Medicaid programs for their survival and cannot afford to see this devastation.

If you have ever had a friend or family member unfortunate enough to have a chronic disease, you will understand how expensive health care in this country has become. Please do not balance the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it. There are better systems the federal government can put in place. Our country's strength lies in our ability to help people, especially the vulnerable.

Thank you for caring about the people.

Lynne Eisenberg

Arlington, MA 02476

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathrin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I am appalled that anyone would support this Draconian plan. You do realize that it will kill people, right? That's a fact. Do you hate Americans that much? Because that is the only explanation. How sad that this is what our country has come to. Even the health insurance companies think it's a travesty!

Please vote no.
Katherine Siegel
Chatsworth, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carmen Laube [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not Pass the Graham Cassidy Healthcare proposition

The proposed legislation is further proof that there is no comprehensive GOP plan to replace the ACA. The GOP had seven years to design a plan that would retain the elements of the ACA that were unique in our country, and could win support across the aisle:

- no lifetime limits for treatments
- no denials based on preexisting conditions
- no kicking off adult children from parents' plans till their mid-twenties
- preserving women's health care support

We've only seen backroom proposals, scrambled together behind the scenes by wealthy white men. It's shameful that your collective insight and heart as citizens are so limited.

Carmen Novia Laube
NY NY 10024

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Payne [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:59 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

Any bill that does not protect people with pre-existing conditions is inadequate. Denying people coverage because they were born unhealthy beyond their control is unacceptable. Reinstating lifetime caps and discriminating against those of us who are born sick, is not only immoral but inhuman. We talk about how we are great humanitarians, but yet we are not showing compassion to our most vulnerable among us. My life expectancy, and quality of life will suffer with a repeal of the Patient Protections. Any bill that does not protect people like myself is not acceptable. As a patient with Cystic Fibrosis a rare genetic disease, my quality of life has improved since the passing of the ACA – Patients life myself are living longer healthier productive lives, and while the ACA isnt perfect is has help ensure we always have the care we needs. My medical expenses are over 200,000 a year, just to sustain my health. I utilize Medicaid as a supplement and that has been my safety net. I was thrown off of my parents insurance pre ACA because I was too expensive, I went without insurance while I waited to hear if I was going to be able to get Medicaid. Luckily I was accepted. I take medication to eat and breathe every day without access to these medications I won't survive. Our community can't afford any cuts to Medicaid, and we can't afford any bills that will discriminate against us because we were born sick. In PA alone 60 percent of CF patients utilize some form of Medicaid to survive. I'm terrified for the future. We should be working to improve the ACA not destroy it. We need a system that doesn't discriminate based on health status or income level, coverage for every citizen no matter who they are or what cards they were dealt in life. I beg you my life literally depends on healthcare, and right now the ACA is making sure I stay alive. Any bill that claims it is a health care bill; but its throwing people off insurance , raising prices on seniors and discriminating against those of us who are sick, IS NOT a health care bill. The word Care implies compassion and empathy, and neither of those things are found in the Graham Cassidy bill- Please VOTE NO, and please protect your most vulnerable set of constituents. Giving states the power to decide if they will protect those of us with rare and very expensive diseases is irresponsible. People will die if this bill is passed.

Anna Payne

19047
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Roy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please don't do this. You are condemning many to death if this passes. No one should have to beg for their lives because you want tax breaks for the wealthy. We can send foreign nations (Israel) billions but not take care of our own children, disabled and elderly? Why? We can build unwanted military equipment but have affordable healthcare and medicines? Why? Why do you hate us and want to kill us? Why? Sharon Roy. From Sen Grahams own state.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: denise h [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Just say no

To Whom it May Concern:

Please do not let this repeal of the Affordable Care Act go through. The Republican Senators need to think of everyone. The Senate had seven years to come up with suggestions to improve the Affordable Care Act. All the Republican Senators want to do now, is repeal it so they can say they did something. Just vote no. This new bill is absolutely horrible. I suggest anyone on the fence talk to someone whose child has a disease. Under your new bill, this child can be denied coverage. The Republicans seem to think they are also holier than anyone. What part of Christianity allows you to turn your back on the sick and poor? Wake up, Republican Senators. You are not sheep. Think of something other than preserving the face of your party. You should be concerned with the party's soul, because the face of your Party is the President. Any Republican Senator who votes no will win the respect of Democrats and Independents living in their precinct. Just vote no. Do what is right. This bill is not close to being a good bill.

Thank you,

Denise Hatakeyama

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kelly Ryan [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:58 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 will result in millions of people losing health insurance or medicaid. My wonderful mother has dementia, and without medicaid we would not be able to afford the nursing home care that she needs. Without the protections of the ACA legislation, my cancer-survivor sister may not be able to get affordable health insurance. As someone with bipolar, I would not be guaranteed health insurance coverage despite having a preexisting condition, making my life-saving but expensive medication out of reach. As a woman, we will be back to the time when insurance companies can discriminate against me simply because of my gender. These things are wrong, and I shouldn't have to tell you that.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller will destroy families. America is better than this. Congress needs to continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to fix the problems with the ACA. But make no mistake, the ACA has saved lives, and destroying without a satisfactory replacement is callous, cynical and amoral. Please vote no to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal and do the right thing for the Americans you represent.

Sincerely,

Kelly Ryan

Kelly Ryan

19003
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Merideth Mulroney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

To my Representatives in the Senate,

I implore you to vote no on this thoughtless act which will put my myself, my family and to many I know at risk for losing insurance coverage. This effort to repeal the ACA puts party before the best interests of the people. If there is a shred of integrity left in the Senate, this act will be shut down. Vote NO.

- Merideth Multoney

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Beaugard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: View NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state, 90 seconds of debate? If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill.

Sincerely,
Carol Beaugard

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote against Cassidy Graham Bill, FIX ACA

Dear Senators,

As an American citizen, I am urging you to stand up and support access to healthcare by voting against the Cassidy Graham bill. The bill would be a disaster for the Medicaid program, for the elderly in nursing homes and for those who must buy health insurance on the open market. I have been in the last category due to an employer trying to treat me as contingent labor, where ongoing employment was not guaranteed and as a result the access to health care benefits was spotty and uncertain. While in this status, I took advantage of the ACA to purchase health care through the exchange. The transparency on rates, levels of coverage and the various plans offered made this a great option for me at the time.

Please join John McCain and Rand Paul in doing the right thing and VOTE NO on the Graham Cassidy bill. The American people *hate it*, the American health insurance industry *hates the bill*, the associations representing doctors, nurses and other health care professionals say the plan is wrong and even the 50 state Medicaid Managers recognize what a disaster this plan would be.

Thanks for your attention.

Paul Gibler
Wisconsin

P.S. I have called Senator Johnson multiple times to express my dismay over every version of the repeal plans that the GOP has come up with to date. It is time to FIX the ACA!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jody Tzucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham cassidy healthcare legislation

Dear Senators:

I am writing to tell you I am opposed to the healthcare proposal offered by Senators Graham and Cassidy. This bill will essentially gut the fundamental coverage for millions of Americans, and throw our healthcare system, such as it is, into a chaotic Balkanization of benefits, and cause many people to die because they cannot get the healthcare they need. This proposal is no better than the previous attempt by the majority leadership, and in fact, might be worse. The CBO needs to weigh in on the effects.

I urge you, as a concerned citizen, to reject this bill, and work to repair the current ACA legislation.

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks.

Sincerely, Jody Tzucker

[REDACTED]
Carmel IN 46033

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Little Bear [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: New repeal to American Health Care

I am writing this missive to express my complete dismay at the thought of people who were voted into position of power to represent the American people attempting to pass legislation that will lead to the untimely death millions of those people. You cannot believe the animosity this will lead to on the behalf of people who lose loved ones because of this action. If this passes I will spend the rest of my life working to strip all politicians of their Healthcare.

Sincerely

Glenda Totten-Hatch

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

It's clear that the Graham-Cassidy bill is not thought-out, researched, or intended to promote health for most Americans. It is not supported by basically anyone outside of a few politicians, and will be a disaster for Americans and our economy. Please do NOT advance this bill and for the love of God, please stop crawling further up the Koch brothers' arses and do something FOR the American people.

Thank you.

Tina Boscha

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aasta Deth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 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 family relies on the healthcare exchange and Medicaid. My husband and I started a small business after the ACA was passed because for the first time in our lives we could access healthcare and pursue our dreams. Our 5 year old son is autistic and relies on Medicaid for his care. If this bill isn't passed and we lose these two programs we will lose our business and quite possibly more. These are people's real lives you're playing with and as a taxpayer I resent congress making decisions for MY healthcare that don't equally apply to them. Any type of repeal of ACA is cruel and will go down on history as one of the worst representations of Congress.

Aasta Deth

15065
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: s Tracton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 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 hurts your own constituents. Why would they then re-elect you?

s Tracton

19115
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pamela Alexander [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT!

To even consider this action, you apparently don't care about the average citizen.

MAN UP! Say NO to this very destructive act.

And while you're at it, think about how you plan to stop Donald's initiative to start a nuclear war.

The Republican party gave us THIS?

Most sincerely,
Pamela Alexander
Tucson, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jan Bruce [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health care

Vote no
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: JoAnne Ruvoli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please VOTE NO on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Please VOTE NO on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

A bill written in back rooms with no public discussion does not improve the law and policies for the people that you were elected to represent. Please listen to all the healthcare experts and work with them to improve the existing federal laws and policies instead of repealing the current law without a plan.

Without the help of Medicaid, caring for the last year of my mother-in-law's life would have bankrupted my family. Her monthly bill at the nursing home was three times my monthly salary as an educator. She worked as a school teacher for over 30 years and had savings, but without the federal insurance, we would not have been able to meet the costs of her care. More instability in the system only makes a terrible situation much much worse and leaves people (and companies) even more vulnerable at one of the worst times of their life.

Thank you for continuing to improve healthcare policies, but this proposed policy will hurt people more than it help. Please VOTE NO on the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

Sincerely,
JoAnne Ruvoli Gruba
Wadsworth Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: GABRIELA AMARI [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill...

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to let you know what I think about this "health care" bill.

I am a fifty six year old woman with disabilities, one of which is a rare form of Leukemia. The chemo medication that I must take each and every day (or I DIE) costs over \$10,000 per month. that's right, \$10,000 Per Month for Thirty Pills. I can only miss One pill in a week.

Without these pills, I would go into the second phase which would make me resistant to the drug and ultimately would land me in the third and final phase, the Blastic Phase, of this illness in which I am Terminal and I die.

Throwing Medicaid back to the individual states, knowing that they will not have enough money to cover all of the costs and would result in block granting, is the worst idea Ever. Medicaid pays for the 20% of my chemo medication that Medicare doesn't cover. that amount is over \$4,000 per month. I cannot afford to pay even \$1,000 per month of this cost. I am one of Millions who need Medicaid to stay a Federal Program in order to cover all of our needs.

I am Sick and Tired of being Stressed Out every time Republicans try to repeal the ACA Just to get a Political Win! Stop wasting our tax dollars on attempts to repeal and instead, Fix the ACA! You are Politicizing the American People's Health Care while Millions of people's lives hang in the balance! Stop playing politics with our health care! Fix what is already in place! Your games are taking a serious toll on my health!

Sincerely,

Gabriela Amari

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Cassidy-Graham Bill

Hello...

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the Cassidy-Graham bill. This monstrous bill will bring our country to its knees, injuring and killing innocent people and bankrupting others whose only fault is getting sick. Please do not let this abomination pass.

Thank you.
Scott Mikita
Stamford, CT 06902

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janina Wolfin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:18 PM
To: gchcomments

Dear members of the Senate Finance Cttee:

I write urging you not to approve the terms of the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I've lived in several foreign countries that do health care well -- cheaper, more efficiently, covering all their people and with better health outcomes. Can your committee not study their systems and copy them -- thus saving us from what has always been a poor system?

Following World War Two, America missed the opportunity to draft an inclusive and efficient system. We need brave legislators who will repair that error now. Can you take on that role?

Tens of thousands of Americans die each year from poor or no health care. It's not terrorists or foreign enemies who are killing our people, it's we ourselves, our bad policy. It's time to redefine national security. "We have met the enemy and he is us." (Pogo/Walt Kelly)

Please help.

Yours sincerely,
Yann van Heurck
[REDACTED]
Madison CT 06443
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kellie Pearson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Proposed Graham Cassidy bill
Attachments: image1.jpeg

I'm just a farmers wife, mother and daughter. I went uninsured 20 years, with a life threatening genetic heart condition. It is not for emotional impact that I tell you, that the ACA saved my life. This bill will essentially leave me to die. I cannot forgo healthcare, I cannot hope this all works out. Please please think of me.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peggy Barnish [REDACTED] n>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The latest attempt to repeal Obamacare

I believe that Obamacare needs to be repaired but I am so grateful that I live in the state with two senators Blumenthal and Murphy who really care what happens to their constituents and are prepared to vote against this latest nonsense which will hurt so many people Nationwide. I worry for the people who live in the states we're apparently the worry is not for the people but for the reputations of the Senators who are voting on it. If that is your primary concern mr. Or mrs. Senator, then shame on you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Blair [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

The Cassidy/Graham healthcare proposal will leave many,many Americans without affordable healthcare. My husband & I are seniors with limited incomes and our adult daughter has a rare disease which requires medication. Don't leave us,along with many other Americans without the healthcare we need.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:12 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidy bill

Importance: High

STOP! When major healthcare organizations tell you this is worse than the last attempt, PLEASE LISTEN. Health for US citizens should not be a partisan issue, illness and disease finds us all, regardless of our politics! Revise and upgrade the system in place and then name it for tRump, if you must, but protect the people FIRST, not your political agenda.

Respectfully,
Nan M Carlson
Normal, IL, 61761

Sent from my Huawei Mobile

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancee Pangares [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT pass Graham- Cassidy

I am a very healthy insured 55 yr old, but I hope and pray never to burden my children. This bill will devastate that goal, simply because of my age. And if pre-existing conditions are not covered (as this bill does NOT) then my chances of burdening our children go up exponentially.

I will live in a garden shed before I let myself become a burden. But oh where is my country!

Millions of us in our 50's work hard and have done so, shouldering insurance costs. Do not pass this bill and knife us in the back, and put our children in impossible financial and emotional predicaments.

Stop this bill. We need a bipartisan fix to existing ACA healthcare. This bill is NOT right.

Nancee Pangares
HR Dept Manager/Customer Service

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: William Squier [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am the self-employed owner of a small business. The members of my entire family, in fact, are sole proprietors and, as such, have relied upon our state's exchange for healthcare coverage for better than twenty years. (Prior to passage of the Affordable Care Act, we were able to buy into coverage that was created for state employees.) If the Graham Cassidy bill is passed into law by both houses of Congress we will no longer have access to affordable medical insurance of any kind. So, we urge the members of the Senate to vote "no."

W. Squier
Stamford, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marsha Brofka-Berends [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:25 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 by no means an improvement over the ACA but is in every way a huge step backward.

The majority of Americans do not want this bill. They are terrified about being denied coverage, being driven into bankruptcy, and being subject to a cruel system that cares not one whit for their humanity.

America's major physician organizations are united in their opposition to this bill. They recognize that it will do great harm to their patients.

Healthcare insurers do not want this bill. They recognize that it will destabilize the healthcare market.

With so much opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill, why is it even being considered? If the GOP leadership truly things that this bill is in the best interest of the American public, why is it rushing this bill through without waiting for the CBO score that should, if the bill is indeed good, back up their assertions?

Don't let the GOP leadership's hatred of Obama trick you into blindly following it down what is so obviously the wrong path. At this point, personal opinions about Obama are irrelevant: all that matters are the FACTS about the legislation under discussion.

If you think the ACA has shortcomings, fine--then work to FIX THEM. And "fix" definitely does not mean "make things worse for the vast majority of American citizens." If you want to improve the healthcare system, then work in good faith with your colleagues of all political parties to craft a solution that truly makes things better for everyone.

Marsha Brofka-Berends

19341
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bridget Gehrling [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Debacle

NO! NO! NO! NO!

DO NOT Vote on this farce. Send it back to the cave in which it was conceived with a resounding "NO!" from THE PEOPLE whom YOU are supposed to be REPRESENTING.

This is not GOVERNANCE. This is a sick, demented, horror.
Graham-Cassidy should never see the light of day.

It should not be voted on.
If it is subjected to a vote, it should FAIL... by the largest possible margins.

I know that most of the Senate will not have a chance to read, much less study the bill in its entirety before Mr. McConnell calls for a vote. I don't have to read it to know that the only real objective of this piece of legislation is to abolish the AFFORDABLE CARE ACT that President Obama instituted.

This obsession is beneath the dignity of the offices you currently hold. If you don't like some aspect of the ACA, then FIX it.

You cannot withdraw the security of the system in place before you have something BETTER to REPLACE it.
Repeal cannot come before Replace. Do your JOBS.

Act as if you wanted what is best for the majority of your country, rather than what your owners think they want.
Beating down the undercarriage is not good for anyone, not even the richest of your investors.

Read some history.
MAKE some history.
Put PEOPLE before Party.

There are consequences if you fail in this matter. You won't like them. Nobody will.

Bridget A. Gehrling
Oakland, Maine.

--
Bridget A. Gehrling
Office Goddess

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Smith, Michael G. [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save Medicaid!
Attachments: 9.21.17 SaveMedicaid.docx; 20150226_130926.jpg; 21905467_1457408674349084_1557365610_n.jpg; 21919159_1457408691015749_826891395_n.jpg

To whom it may concern;
Attached is the document I've written as to why Medicaid should be saved. This is only a fraction of my personal story.
Also attached are pictures of myself.
Thank you,
Mike Smith

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Isabel Liss <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill -- DO NOT PASS

To Whom It May Concern (and that's all of us, isn't it?):

This legislation is not good for the American people. Both my husband and I are self-employed. Without the ACA we would not have insurance (we did not have insurance for 10 years before the ACA was enacted). The ACA should not be repealed. It should only be improved upon.,

The Graham Cassidy bill seems motivated by some insular and extremely harmful politics. (And it is telling that our representatives do not have the same health insurance as the people they represent) Please do right by the American People and defeat it.

Isabel Liss
Chicago, IL
US Congressional District: 4
US Senate District: 20

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bobbi Drobile [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing on Graham Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I understand you are holding one hearing on the Graham Cassidy bill on Monday.

I would like to state my extremely strong objection to this bill for the record.

I saw the "partial" list of pre-existing conditions and was horrified to see that I have seven conditions on that list. My husband has six. We are both disabled and currently are broke for two weeks out of each month. If our insurance costs go up we will just not have the money to pay for insurance, medicines or doctor visits. We will both be dead in short order.

I know we are not alone by any means. Older Americans will be one of the hardest groups hit. And since our state is expected to lose 8.3 billion dollars, there is no way our costs won't skyrocket.

Please, please....we need everyone to know our lives literally depend on this law NOT to be enacted.

Sincerely,

Barbara and William Drobile

18974

Sent from my alcatel Fierce 4

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ben Long [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy- Graham bill

This bill will influence the care that my disabled child is getting in Iowa City, IA. Our son is 35 and he cannot make any money himself and he needs help. Please consider how this bill will affect the disabled.
Ben and Joyce Long.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cheryl Towers [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 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 the effects will be even worse than past measures proposed, it hasn't been considered in any reasonable bi-partisan fashion, doesn't have bi-partisan support, and will ultimately leave millions uninsured. To create turmoil of this magnitude in an industry representing one-sixth of our economy - not to mention the negative consequences it will have on individuals and families - is the height of irresponsibility.

Do the right thing and vote it down.

Cheryl Towers
15232

Cheryl Towers

15232
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shirley McGreal [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Attention Senator Graham

Senators, I watch C-Span regularly and have seen no testimony on the series of bills to strip people of their health care. Normally you would see testimony from representatives of groups like the AARP and AMA and many groups with much knowledge of health issues. I dislike the idea of pushing a bill like the one currently proposed through with no hearings or scoring.

Senator Graham, as one of your South Carolina constituents, I want to see you insist that formal public hearings be held. Thank you, Shirley McGreal

Dr. Shirley McGreal OBE and the IPPL Gibbons

[REDACTED]
Summerville SC 29484
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sean Monahan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

This bill will make it impossible for many of my close friends & family to get affordable health insurance.

Not only does this bill not pass the Jimmy Kimmel test, it doesn't pass the most basic test of legislation in a democracy as it is opposed by the extreme majority of the country (including the healthcare industry itself).

With all of the things you could be focused on right now, this bill is about getting a "political win" instead of about actually fixing our healthcare system.

Thank you for your time,
Sean Monahan
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Norton [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 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 I think this bill is completely heartless because would take insurance away from people who really need it and could otherwise not afford it or even get it due to pre-existing conditions.

Tina Norton

18519
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Cortese [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:24 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 is no fiscally responsible way for all 50 states each to implement health care systems. This is a WASTE OF MONEY. In addition to allowing states to get waivers so that none of the 10 essential health benefits nor the pre-existing conditions are protected. Pushing off everything to the states is the cowards way out. You have held no hearings and do not have a COB rating of this bill. A RUSH JOB because it is a MEAN bill - MEANER than the last one that Trump called "Mean". Vote NO on this bill. No one is protected under this bill and everyone is at the mercy of their state legislatures who do not have the good of the whole country at stake.

Anne Cortese

16801
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: dsalomon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare bill

I am writing to you to please kill the Graham Cassidy Bill. No caps to Medicaid!! People with disabilities need to be able to have adjustments for the rising cost of health care. I have 2 daughters with a rare genetic syndrome and our Medicaid is vital for their quality of life. Medicaid is used for their developmental disability services as well as their major medical needs. Medicaid is the only way most people can afford long term care and be able to stay in their homes. Vote No on this terrible health care bill.

Thank you,
Debbie Salomon

[REDACTED]
Omaha Ne 68114

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Shuey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill. I am concerned about it being pushed through the Senate because it looks to end medicaid expansion, and cut billions in PA and other states, it ends protection for pre-existing, lifetime caps (in many states) and eventually cuts coverage for seniors, children and disabled. Those are not my only concerns but the more critical ones.

Healthcare is not a luxury, and as one of the wealthiest and supposedly advanced countries in the world, I don't understand why we cannot provide health care for all.

I would like to see sincere efforts toward revising and improving on ACA.

Thank you.

Donna Shuey

19380
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James McCabe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:23 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 lives are at stake. It is that simple! Why would anyone support a proposal that would decimate people's ability to afford a healthy life. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness... Doesn't have an addendum saying "only get life if you can afford the outrageous price."

James McCabe

19114
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jessica L Levasseur [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill comments

This bill is an abomination.

It does not protect preexisting conditions. It punishes those with metastatic cancer (spoiler: they did not ask nor plan for it). It raises costs associated with pregnancy (so you want us to have the baby, no contraceptives or abortions in use, but also afford a pregnancy that will cost more than a down payment for a typical house? And then somehow make enough money? Without guaranteed maternity leave?). It punishes those with opioid addictions and mental health issues (these are not struggles people enjoy. They are both epidemics in the United States). This bill would allow insurers in the private marketplace to discriminate against people with preexisting conditions. And it would eliminate the individual mandate. It would not have coverage mandates, therefore those with lifelong or expensive diseases can be denied healthcare based on a medical situation they did not ask for.

Healthcare is a right. No one should have to choose between bankruptcy and living. No one should have to choose between feeding their child and dying. No one should have to watch a loved one die because they cannot afford a treatment that exists and is available. Children with cancer should not be denied healthcare for the rest of their life because there are no protections against lifetime maximums. People with disabilities should not be punished for how they were born, or for what has happened to them in this lifetime. America should be a land of opportunity for all. It should not be a death sentence for those who are not healthy.

32 million Americans are estimated to lose coverage under this bill. That is more than the entire population of Texas, to put that in perspective. This bill rewards states for having lots of poor people, but not for getting them insured. For those states who give a damn about helping others, only punishment will ensue: "keep doing what you're doing, but we'll eventually take away all your funding (good luck)!" This is ridiculous and immoral.

Here are the trusted medical groups who have spoken out against this bill:

1. American Medical Association: "...the Graham-Cassidy Amendment fails to match this vision and violates the precept of "first do no harm.""
2. American Academy of Pediatrics: "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."
3. 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."
4. 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."

5. Planned Parenthood: "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."
6. Kaiser Permanente: "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."
7. 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 pre-existing conditions; not ending taxes on health insurance premiums and benefits; and potentially allowing government-controlled, single payer health care to grow."
8. 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."
9. Association of American Medical Colleges: "The current proposal...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."
10. 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."
11. 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."
12. 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"

It is monstrous to consider this plan. It will affect the elderly (with cancer, Alzheimer's, living in nursing homes, staying in hospice, etc), veterans (with injuries, with disabilities, with PTSD), women (post-natal, pre-natal, while giving birth, those who cannot be adequately screened for breast cancer, uterine cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer), men (who disproportionately suffer from the opioid epidemic, those who cannot be adequately screened for prostate cancer, colon cancer, testicular cancer), children with cancer, children with disabilities, children with mental health issues (such as those in foster care or who have parents who are affected by the opioid epidemic), homeless populations (which include many veterans), and poorer populations (which is nearly everyone who is not the 1%, because they are the only people who could afford the medical costs this bill will introduce).

The government should protect the people. Our government is betraying the entire population of the United States if they cannot protect us from wildly expensive medical bills. Everyone gets sick. Everyone needs protection.

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. It is unkind, unethical, and unsustainable. It is a death sentence for many in our country. Please do not approve this monstrosity.

Thank you

--

Jessica Levasseur

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lee Gable [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:22 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 access to health care is a life and death issue for many in this country.

I strongly appose any bill that would reduce access or coverage for people with pre-existing conditions.

As a Lutheran Pastor I walk with families in various stages of health crisis. Please do not add to the financial, emotional, and spiritual burden of those already suffering with a health care bill that is not designed for the good of all people.

May God guide you in this important work.
The Rev. Lee R Gable

Lee Gable

15557
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather O'Connell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill

Please do not let this bill pass. As a mother with a beautiful, smart, hard working, productive, tax paying adult daughter with Down syndrome, I am overwhelmed with the difficulties in getting appropriate, timely medical care on her behalf, through Medicaid.

We have to travel often hours to see specialist. Getting anything covered often takes long prior authorization that is done so slowly that her health is negatively affected.

The idea of doing anything that would decrease the ability to care for her, will be catastrophic.

Her health will be impacted incredibly and I guarantee that people will die if this bill goes through.

If the plan is to save money by allowing many to suffer and die, than keep going.

But to allow the least of us to suffer is so wrong and UnAmerican.

Sincerely,

Heather O'Connell

A loving mother of a person with a disability.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: q [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee -

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. There has not been a CBO score yet, there is not a floor debate scheduled with input either from experts or from the public, and all the medical associations are against this bill.

In addition, it is untrue that it covers pre-existing conditions. States can opt-out, or insurance companies can force consumers to pay higher amounts to cover those pre-existing conditions, thus pricing them out of care. It would cost states millions, and it would result in about 32 million people losing their coverage. Perhaps most alarming is that it would impose lifetime caps - meaning if someone had cancer and had to have rounds of treatment, the insurance company could cut a patient off.

This is literally a life-and-death situation for millions. A bad bill shouldn't be voted on merely to check off a box for political gain. If it's a bad bill, it's a bad bill.

Please do NOT approve the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,
-J. Birkenhead
Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Travis Hoffman [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on HR 1628

Travis Hoffman
[REDACTED]

Missoula, MT 59801

September 21, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee - GCH Comments,

The Graham-Cassidy Amendment (H.R. 1628) is a disaster for disabled Americans. It imposes cuts to Medicaid in the form of block grants, which will force States to cut home and community based services which support the lives and liberty of disabled people, as well as the elimination of the Community First Choice program that provides in-home personal assistance services for individuals with disabilities.

Here in Montana we are already facing severely debilitating budget cuts at the state level and we cannot afford to undergo further budget reductions! The American people have already spoken loudly against the cuts that Graham-Cassidy imposes.

Right now in Medicaid, home and community based services are "optional" which means States are not required to provide them. Prescription drugs are "optional." Durable Medical Equipment such as wheelchairs are "optional." As Graham-Cassidy cuts Medicaid funding over time, States will pare down these "optional" services, which are very much necessary for disabled people to enjoy the liberty which the Constitution promises to all Americans and that allow states and the federal government to serve individuals with disabilities in lower-cost care settings in the community rather than in costly nursing homes or other institutional settings.

Republicans did not win office by promising to cut Medicaid and destroy the lives of disabled people. Indeed, President Trump promised the opposite, that Medicare and Medicaid would not be cut under his administration. the Graham-Cassidy bill goes out of its way to cut Medicaid services that disabled people and seniors rely on to live our lives.

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill (H.R. 1628) and any legislation that cuts Medicaid home and community based services, which millions of people with disabilities have no choice but to rely on in order to survive let alone participate in their communities or even be employed, tax paying citizens.

Sincerely,
Travis Hoffman

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Hi,
I write to express my opposition to the Cassidy-Graham bill.
I live in California and find it extremely unjust and unfair that millions in my state, including my mother, brother, sister, will likely lose their medical coverage. I see no benefit to stripping health care away from millions of Americans.
Please consider the ramifications of your actions, thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sari [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: From an American very concerned

This is not about my individual story about what life would be like for me w out Medicaid. If this new bill passes it will mean the destruction of America. W out the business from patients on ACA, Medicaid, and Medicare, hospitals especially in rural America, will shut down, and dr's will go out of business. There will be no hospital to go to. Even if u have ur own, such as oxford, what would u do if ur child woke up w apendisitis and there's no hospital to go to. Not sure if people realize, rural America feeds us. They're the ones who put food on our tables. So seriously, what are you doing?????

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marla Mott-Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Re Graham-Cassidy

Expires: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 2:00 AM

My name is Marla Mott-Smith, and I live in South Jordan, UT. I'm urging Senator Hatch to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill, or any other bills that would repeal the Affordable Care Act, cut Medicaid funding, and leave millions of people with no health insurance. Instead, work in a bipartisan manner to provide access to affordable, accessible health and long-term services.

Marla Mott-Smith
Candidate for Utah's 4th Congressional District in 2018

Face Book [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michele Vasquez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: re: Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy bill that repeals the ACA and replaces it with a financially irresponsible, immoral and inhumane non-healthcare bill. There are so many reasons to oppose this bill, but I will only list a few. It defunds Planned Parenthood, it reinstates lifetime caps on health insurance, it ends Medicaid Expansion and leaves it to the states to decide about covering people with pre-existing conditions. I agree with Senator McCain that any effort to change healthcare should be bi-partisan. John McCain is a hero; try to follow his example and vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. Every major health group and organization in this country is opposed to Graham-Cassidy. It is extremely unpopular with the American people. Do the right thing and vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you,
Michele Vasquez
Soldotna, Alaska

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Niesha Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 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. Niesha Foster
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10024
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanna Basile [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

As a citizen of the United States, I am asking all our elected officials and representatives to listen to your constituents, and vote against the proposed Graham Cassidy. Not just because you will not be re-elected when you run for office again, but because it is your job and your duty to be the voice of the people. To represent the people.

Millions of Americans will lose their health insurance. Those with pre-existing conditions will suffer. People could die at worst and struggle at best. This is no healthcare bill.

I urge you to vote no on the proposed Graham Cassidy Bill.

Best regards,

Joanna Basile

Joanna P. Basile, Nashville Tennessee
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcey DiCaro [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Keep Healthcare for the American People Affordable

I'm really beginning to doubt the integrity of many in the Senate and Congress. After 8 years of trying to overturn the Affordable Care Act, once again you are attempting to take away healthcare from millions of Americans and raise the amount that many of us already pay.

Three and half years ago, I had life saving surgery to remove a 47lb tumor because of the Affordable Care Act. I had to live with the knowledge of this tumor for 2 years prior and had been unable to obtain healthcare insurance. I am alive today because of my surgeon and the Affordable Care Act.

I am on Medicare now and am now dealing with a recurrence of the cancer. I shudder to think what the cost will be for me if this new bill goes through.

Only 12% of the American people support what you are trying to do. Stop trying to tear apart an Act that has saved millions of lives and work with Democrats to improve it for the people not just for the wealthy.

--

Marcey DiCaro

[REDACTED] m
"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and right-doing, there is a field. I will meet you there..."Rumi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Ann Correia <[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.

Ms. Lori Ann Correia
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Roslindale, MA 02131
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pamela OBrien [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO!

NO to Graham-Cassidy. Are you serious? Please remember your constituents.

Pamela M. O'Brien

*Stop believing in authority. Start believing
in each other! Especially when the
authority figures don't care about
you!*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Yank, [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello, I am emailing you to urge you to not support the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. It is the height of irresponsibility to pass a bill that would reshape 1/6th of our economy, as Sen. McCain wrote, "without knowing how much it will cost, how it will affect insurance premiums, and how many people will be helped or hurt by it." The American people elected you to improve our health care, not take it away.

Sincerely,
-Mike Yank

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jane Zucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass this healthcare bill!!!

What is the matter with the Senate? You're supposed to be the grownups!!! Every bill created is worst than the next. Keeping a campaign promise isn't delivered if more people are thrown out of healthcare than before. This is an obvious shellgame with people lives. My sister is running out of money and is in a nursing home. What is she supposed to do then if she can't go on medicaid? We can't afford to take care of her and ourselves.

The ripple effect of what you are doing is insane!!! Vote no on this bill. Beyond comprehension of how the Senators live with themselves!!!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Veronica Bonfiglio [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.

Ms. Veronica Bonfiglio

[REDACTED]
N/a
Fremont, CA 94536
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shawn Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

I strongly oppose the repeal and replacement of the ACA. The bill proposed by Bill Cassidy will do harm to innumerable people and cause death to millions. This bill is cruel and corrupt.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: RONDA F GITHENS [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

As you consider the Graham-Cassidy ACA "repeal and replace" bill, please consider the grave effects it would have for the American people. We haven't seen the CBO score (and I wonder why the Senate would consider voting on this bill without it), but it is clear that, if passed, the bill would result in serious financial burdens and bankruptcies for individuals as well as a substantial loss of health-related jobs (as people become unable to seek medical care).

Please consider what happens to people when they can no longer afford medical insurance or when they are denied coverage as will happen under this bill. In our "advanced" nation, people will die because they've been sick in the past and now insurance companies will be able to charge them hundreds of thousands of dollars in premiums. How will they pay an annual premium 4 times their annual salary? Obviously they won't and some will die.

The bill goes further to allow states to opt to allow insurance companies to actually deny coverage to pregnant women, babies and others most in need of medical care. If you've never been pregnant, you might not appreciate how much we women rely on our doctors to keep us healthy and guide us through the many risks of pregnancies. Many of these risks will lead to death if not monitored by a doctor. My daughter had a high-risk pregnancy. I had a daughter born 6 weeks early and requiring intensive care for two weeks. It doesn't matter that babies will die without medical care?

One of the most direct and immediate effects of this bill is to reduce Medicare payments to states. I have an adult daughter who has a serious illness and relies on Medicaid. Without medical care, she will die. So this is very personal for myself and my family. There are hundreds of thousands in each state who will be denied health care if this horrendous bill is allowed to pass. And this will become the legacy of the 115th Congress Republicans.

I've heard one senator argue that governors will not allow their state to remove insurance protections. That's absurd. You can just as easily argue that there is no way senators would vote to allow people to lose their health insurance -- so not true. There are a great many senators who are willing to turn away from the cries of their constituents and vote purely to satisfy their donors or their party leaders. No matter the harm done.

All Medicaid directors and dozens of medical associations have come out against this bill. The majority of Americans, regardless of party, have said they want to keep the current health care law in place. They do not want to lose their medical coverage. Medical providers do not want to turn people away for lack of insurance. Hospitals do not want to face bankruptcy after providing free care to previously insured patients. How many medical jobs will be lost by reducing medical care? I suppose this bill will be a boost to funeral homes and pharmaceutical companies selling over-the-counter pain relievers. In what universe does this level of harm to the American people make sense?

Thank you for your time.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Roth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: impact of graham Cassidy on my students

I am a special education teacher. I have been working with students with disabilities for the past 20 years. Most of my students have multiple disabilities, be they physical or cognitive. Graham- Cassidy appears to be set up to have preexisting conditions be under the purview of individual states. While I am a staunch advocate of state's rights, the reality is that different states have very different abilities to fund health care and often have different priorities. While I trust that the health of our children, as well as the health of anyone with preexisting conditions, has been considered when crafting Graham- Cassidy, it creates many potential gaps and pitfalls for the neediest among us.

To me, the measure of a government, indeed of a society, is the degree to which consideration and support is provided to the neediest. Graham-Cassidy, in its current incarnation, shows no clear commitment to those who need it most. In this case, states should not have the power to determine whether their citizens receive the support they need. This needs to be viewed as an inalienable civil/ human right.

Please reject this bill.

Sincerely,

Robert Roth
MSEd, MSW

Special Education Teacher, LAUSD

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DAVID Caponera [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.

Mr. DAVID Caponera

[REDACTED]
HARVAD, MA 01451
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christi Martinez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:35 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on the GrahamCassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

My name is Christi Martinez, I currently live in Connecticut. I am a wife and mother of two young boys. I work full-time in Human Resources and have pretty good benefits through my employer. However, like so many other Americans, I have a pre-existing condition. I have Multiple Sclerosis and without out the protections of the ACA which effects employers plans as well as individual plans. I would max out of my insurance coverage in approximately 10 years. Being in Human Resources, I am very aware that the monthly cost of my Tecfidera prescription is over \$6,000 per month. In addition, I have to have annual MRI's and check up's every 6 months. My annual insurance cost is approximately \$100,000 just to treat my MS. The Graham Cassidy bill would hurt me and so many other American's who have pre-existing conditions. To be honest, there isn't anyone I know that doesn't have some form of pre-existing condition. Without a full review and an analysis of effects of this bill, we can't not allow this sham of a bill to be passed.

I beg you please to say no to this bill.

Kind regards,

Christi Martinez

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marybeth Krummenacker [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. Marybeth Krummenacker

[REDACTED]
Hicksville, NY 11801
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Beth Bosley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:34 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. Beth Bosley
[REDACTED]

Morgantown, WV 26508
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Wealthcare Bill

To Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I'm writing to beg you to vote NO for the GRaham/Cassidy healthcare bill.

To be perfectly honest, I am sick to my stomach at the prospect of this deplorable bill becoming law. It will not only devastate my family, but millions of citizens across the country. I have a 17 year old son who is a Type 1 diabetic, since he was 2 1/2 yrs old. He is a very healthy, normal 17 year old because of the good healthcare he's been lucky enough to have throughout his life! If this bill goes into effect, NO INSURANCE COMPANY will EVER cover him! He will need medication and expensive medical equipment for the rest of his life, which i hope will be a long one! What company would ever hire him knowing how much his healthcare will cost their plans? He's doomed. Would you want that for your child?

My father in law is in a nursing home and needs medicaid to continue to get care. He's only 76 years old. My mother in law can't afford to pay for his healthcare. Who will take care of him?

Just about everyone in my family and extended family has one medical condition or another. For the most part, we are productive members of society because of decent healthcare. I do not want to see my family members die needlessly because of the greedy and heartless tactics of some in government.

Healthcare is a right! Keep our healthcare, safe and affordable. Vote NO for Graham/Cassidy. Vote yes for the ACA and work to make it better! Vote yes for Medicare For All!

Thank you

Elaine Trader
Dobbs Ferry, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: diana witt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:34 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.

diana witt

[REDACTED]
san francisco, CA 94116
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: laineyweinstein [mailto:laineyweinstein@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Bill

I am a 47 year old married mom of two girls. Our family has been blessed with general good health, and our girls have had an uneventful childhood health wise - plus or minus a few routine things like colds, getting their tonsils out, and stiches from a bike wreck (always wear a helmet!.)

We have been covered at every turn by employer insurance, or COBRA if transitioning between jobs. Without access to affordable insurance, even our routine health care needs would place a strain on our family finances, so I can't imagine what millions of people face everyday with healthcare needs for their families that stray beyond the routine.

While I believe that the ACA should be reviewed and improved, the Graham-Cassiday bill is NOT a solution. It endangers millions of people's live and livelihoods by stripping key protections to ensure insurance continues to be affordable and provide the care needed to live.

As a mom with two perfect pregnancies, I may face a 17K increase in my premium alone - that is unconsciously that I would be targeted for that type of penalty simply because I am a women and mother.

We currently receive health insurance from my husband's employer, if they were to stop providing insurance we may be forced to forgo anything except a catastrophe policy.

In addition, I am horrified by the political posturing and flouting of the procedural checks and balances by not waiting for an accurate CBO score and understanding of the impacts on all Americans.

Pushing this bill through to just say it was done undermines our entire democratic process and puts politics above the need a of people. You can do better than that.

Please put the American people first and do not put through this healthcare bill.

Lainey Canevaro Weinstein
Chicago, Illinois

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anne Barker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill, and support and strengthen the ACA

Dear Senators:

I am wholly and completely opposed to the passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill, and to all other efforts to destabilize, sabotage, or repeal the ACA. I oppose pulling back the expansion of Medicaid. I oppose changing Medicaid to block grants. I oppose efforts to defund Planned Parenthood and the crucial health services they provide, particularly to the young, the low-income, or people of color. I oppose allowing insurance companies to charge more to people with pre-existing conditions, to cap lifetime benefits, or to withdraw coverage of Essential Health Benefits.

Healthy people pay for sick or injured people in an insurance plan, until they become the sick or injured people, and their coverage becomes paid for by other healthy people. That's the way insurance works. Maternity coverage benefits everyone, whether you will ever be pregnant or not. Where do you think babies come from? Keeping people and our communities healthy benefits all of us, socially and financially, and as a country.

I have friends with children who are sick, with cancer, with diabetes, with other chronic diseases. They will meet lifetime caps or have chronic pre-existing conditions their entire lives. Some of these children are toddlers. The Graham-Cassidy bill would restrict their access to coverage and eventually price them out of the treatment and medications they need.

I have friends and family who are sick, or have been sick in the past and represent a "higher risk", and would therefore be uncoverable, according to insurance plans of the past.

While we are currently healthy, my husband and I have pre-existing conditions, according to insurance companies. Who can reach the ripe old age of 40 without having *something*? I was charged double the usual premium once because I had dared to take antibiotics for a cat bite one year in my 20s. This is what insurance companies did pre-ACA. This is unacceptable.

Finally, some people in the government talk a whole lot about supporting entrepreneurship. One of the best ways to support entrepreneurship would be to ensure that people can obtain affordable health coverage regardless of their employer. Potential entrepreneurs often feel handcuffed to their current employers because they have health insurance as a benefit, and they would not be able to get affordable health insurance if they had to purchase it on the individual market.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Balthazor [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy-Heller

I am opposing, and calling on you to oppose, the Graham-Cassidy-Heller "healthcare" bill for the following reasons:

1. With no full CBO score, rushed through without time for financial stakeholders to examine the bill, GCH would rupture 20% of the US economy without any idea of the impact. 20% of the economy.
2. 20-30 million people will lose coverage, including some of the most vulnerable - the elderly, children, and those with disabilities. With Medicaid gone, there is no safety net. This is unconscionable. The ENTIRE MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT - doctors, hospitals and insurers - is against this travesty.

Resume working on the bipartisan bill please, with public hearings, stakeholder input, and due process.

Thank you,
Dr. Richard Balthazor

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy bill

The US has the worst health care system of any developed nation. How could it be ANY worse? Why, with the Graham-Cassidy bill, of course!

Here's a small taste of what it does:

- Fragment what healthcare we have into a state-by-state patchwork.
- Reduce health-care funding.
- Essentially strip healthcare from anyone with a pre-existing condition.
- Punish states that tried to take care of citizens, and reward those that didn't.
- Rush through a bill that the CBO hasn't had time to evaluate properly (because, hey, it's only about a sixth of our economy).

The Republicans said for years that they could do better than the ACA. This is NOT better. It's far worse.

We need a true bipartisan solution, one that benefits private citizens and cuts out some of the obscene profits in the system.

And this bill needs to go down in flames.

Sincerely,

Linda Gilbert

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Rogers [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Alice Rogers
Mt Shasta, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kate Harrison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

Please do not vote for the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill, or for any plan that would result in a loss of coverage for millions of Americans. This plan would be devastating for people in every state, and voting in favor of any plan without a full CBO score to understand its consequences is incredibly irresponsible. Of course the Affordable Care Act has flaws, but the current proposal will do nothing but make things worse. These are real people's lives at stake, and this issue is too important to rush for a political win.

Thank you for your time,

Katherine Harrison

[REDACTED]
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emilia Lievano [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:25 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

....

Schools based services, including OT, PT, Speech, Nursing, Special Transportation, School Psychologists, and all other school services that receive federal Medicaid funding, including feeding low income children will be affected. \$4 billion is a lot of money for states to compensate for if federal dollars are cut under this bill....

In schools and early intervention alone, Medicaid supports \$4 billion in IDEA-mandated services every year. Medicaid cuts will most certainly affect these services. Pediatric OTs are likely to see significant cuts in coverage, more restrictions, and reduced payment for Medicaid services wherever they are provided because states will be faced with finding more state money or significantly cutting services. Other children's services may be limited. And with no option for subsidies for health insurance, some families may fall through the cracks and have no coverage at all.

I work with adults and Seniors, many of them receive Medicaid. I work with cancer patients who have lymphedema (swelling from radiation and surgery to remove lymph nodes). They need specialized therapy to learn how to do self-massage and specific exercises to promote lymph flow. They need special bandages/supplies and eventually compression garments and pumps to help prevent infections and disfiguring limbs. Cancer would be a pre-existing condition. I have a woman in her 50's with a history of Vulvar cancer. She lost her job when she had cancer treatment. She can't pay her taxes, and has no money to pay for water or electricity in her house. Not having Medicare will surely kill her. Please vote NO on this Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Emilia Lievano
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy and American health care

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Please ask yourselves this question:

Is this proposed plan, for the health care of American citizens, a good plan that we would voluntarily choose, or be willing to adopt, in the place of our current plans for ourselves and our families?

If you cannot in all honesty say, "Yes!", then my question is, why would it be considered a good enough plan for any other American citizen?

I am a retired teacher, living very modestly on a rather limited income. This year, I was diagnosed with third stage, chronic kidney disease. Without my current insurance and Medicare coverages combined, my future would be fraught with even greater uncertainty, and that would be intolerable.

Can you realise how it has become truly terrifying to watch and to listen to people who are supposed to represent their constituents, as they play their political games with something that so seriously affects the rest of us. The phrase 'pre-existing' contains its own nightmare, when paired with 'state control'. And turning over block grants to fifty different states--total chaos! There are some things better left to the administration of our federal government...

Why not find a way to stabilize what we already have with Medicare, and expand it to include every American citizen? It is what most other civilized nations have already done.

It is hard for reasonable people to understand why Congress cannot simply work as a unit to help everyone. After all, is that not why each member was sent to Washington, D.C.?

Thank you for reading this e-mail, and for respectfully considering my remarks.

*-Brenda Brake-
(American Citizen)*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristy Nishimoto [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: patty@murray.senate.gov; CSS NDR (Cantwell)
Subject: Consideration the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

To whom it may concern:

I write in opposition to consideration of the Graham-Cassidy proposal to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (also referred to as Obamacare). I am an individual who is fortunate to have health insurance through my employer and, as someone who has had health issues in the past, I know how invaluable this coverage can be.

I believe that health coverage should be available, accessible, and affordable to all Americans. I understand that not all individuals in this country view health insurance as a right like I do. What I do not understand is how legislation like the Graham-Cassidy proposal, which would have a broad impact on millions of lives, let alone on the health care industry as a whole, can be considered for passage this month without proper analysis and feedback from all impacted stakeholders.

Today a joint statement issued by associations representing physicians, hospitals and health plans was issued in opposition to this proposal. If you do not care about the lives of your constituents, please consider the concerns expressed by these groups.

It seems as though certain politicians care more about a "win" than they do about thoughtfully considered public policy and helping create/improve a health care system that can best serve everyone. (And, no, certain tweaks to the proposal to sweeten the pot for certain wavering Senators do not qualify as thoughtful public policy.) As you proceed with consideration of any proposal impacting Obamacare, please pursue a thoughtful, transparent and bipartisan process. Please take the time that is necessary to thoroughly analyze these proposals because they will have wide-reaching implications and, for some individuals, be a matter of life a death.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kristy Nishimoto
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #GrahamCassidy

This Graham/Cassidy bill will hurt me!! Tweak the ACA!! It took many years to develop - how can you repeal and replace in such a short time WITHOUT going through the normal law making process??

This is irresponsible!

Jackie DeFrino

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janice Murota [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

I am a physician who works in Oakland, California. A study from the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the most respected academic journal in the field of internal medicine, compares Canadian to American outcomes in patients with cystic fibrosis. Canadians have a 77% lower death rate compared to Americans who are uninsured. The average life span for a Canadian with cystic fibrosis is 10 years longer than for their American counterparts. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a death sentence for Americans with chronic illnesses like cystic fibrosis which is a pre-existing condition as it starts from birth. Please do not destroy the health care coverage on which millions of Americans rely for their survival.

<http://annals.org/aim/article/2609289/survival-comparison-patients-cystic-fibrosis-canada-united-states-population-based>

Sincerely,

Janice Murota, M.D.

[REDACTED]

Berkeley, CA 94707

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shannon McCallister [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Obamacare and Cassidy, Keller repeal bill

Without control of your raw material costs, you can't expect to control pricing. The cotton industry learned this in 2010 when prices skyrocketed, and are only now coming down because China is offloading its goods. Americans currently have no control of the raw materials of healthcare. The investors purchase drug patents at a fraction of the dollar and jack up pricing, that's raw goods of health care; our hospitals do not have a universal pricing system that is consistent across state borders or even town lines, that is healthcare raw goods.

Without control of your raw materials you will find the same price lowering competition found in the textile/apparel industry. The prices will only be slightly less than each others' suppliers, while the overall healthcare costs continue to rise. Making it even more susceptible to price setting practices of the sellers. This is the model of mass production, which is what the GOP is basing their alternative healthcare solutions on.

All you have to do is look at textile/apparel industry and see the dangers of this mass production model that has already reached its lowest low and is now in reverse course to repair the damage. To see where the effect of a price dominated system destroyed lives, so much so that China and India are now going to great lengths to improve their environmental health and human worker relations, including providing safety equipment, like rubber gloves, for their dye workers, and investing in green technology.

When price setting does happen by getting rid of the one thing that stood in its way, the ACA or as you continue to call it "Obamacare", the American population will know exactly who to come after with blame for their skyrocketing costs. It will be the GOP.

So instead of unnecessarily harming Americans with a failed bill that takes away their health insurance, (and jeopardizing the GOPs reelection chances), fix our current Affordable Care Act by using incentives instead of deterrents. Add a low-cost catastrophe only option to the current plans listed on ACA and allow customization of additional benefits under this plan.

In offering this low-cost catastrophe only option to the current ACA plans, you give the healthy buyers what they say they want, "to only pay for insurance that they think they will use." You also incentivize insurance companies to use ACA because this option equals double profit: through the low risk payout of healthy buyers drawn to the plan, and additional profit through customization. Piecemeal buying always adds up to nice profit margins. Small costs add up quickly, we all know that and have experienced it.

Once the healthy buyers and sellers are drawn to the ACA marketplace by their own power of desire, then the price reduction through marketplace competition will occur, having insured that raw material costs are reigned in. Increase consumer confidence more by allowing purchasing of the add-on benefits year-round. This way the consumer is assured that an unexpected medical event does not financially cripple them, making the healthy buyer more likely to choose the low cost catastrophe only plan for peace of mind.

How does this simple addition address raw material costs of healthcare? By corporate lawyers of the insurance company who will go after investors who attempt to buy cheap patents and hike up price. That price hiking now cuts into their remaining potential profit since they must comply by the 80-20 rule of ACA to remain in ACA. By forcing a more cordial and beneficial arrangement between insurance providers and medical

providers/facilities. By reducing the current leverage of insurance companies by making them want to use ACA and therefore have to play fairly with the established rules of the ACA, no more exploiting loopholes or issuing ultimatums to our government.

We have seen how incentives work in our financial industries, especially those dealing in issuing credit, our car buying industries, and our retail industries. Incentives will work in our current healthcare mass distribution system. This incentive will bring in buyers and sellers that are necessary to stabilize the system and eventually remove the need for mandates on the buyers.

Once the majority of potential sellers and buyers of healthcare have willingly bought into this system, then our country can feasibly explore a single-payer system in the future without shocking our system.

Shannon McCallister
MFA Costume Design & Apparel Engineering

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CS in RI [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal bill

To the honorable members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing both as a healthcare consumer, as an employer, and as former health care exchange call center employee. I know not only my story, but those of hundreds of people.

What we need is healthcare law that ensures:

- stability in the insurance market so that families and business can plan for healthcare costs
- everyone is covered regardless of pre-existing conditions
- healthcare access that is not reliant on full-time employment with a single employer
- free preventative care for women's health as well as men's health
- women are not penalized for their biology - birth control services, pre-natal, and maternity services should all be affordable
- affordability for the middle class

I wish you Godspeed in ensuring access to healthcare for all Americans.

Catherine Saunders
02906

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meredith g [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

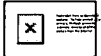
I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

My family and I all depend on quality, affordable health care, including the continuation of coverage for pre-existing conditions.

In addition, as a psychotherapist, I am acutely aware of the importance of coverage for behavioral health treatment. My suicidal patients, and those with severe eating disorders, would be negatively impacted if outpatient and inpatient treatment for psychological issues were to be curtailed. I also know that many of my patients would have difficulty paying for insurance if state block grants were decreased or disappeared.

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

Sincerely,
Meredith J. Goldsmith, LICSW
Stoughton, MA



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

The Graham Cassidy Bill did not follow regular order of the Senate. The Bill is essentially a tax break for the rich via pre-tax medical savings and harmful to the middle class as their premiums will rise. It will be devastating to the millions upon millions who will lose their health insurance. It puts people with pre-existing conditions at risk of extreme increases in premiums and loss of insurance all together. It interferes with women's reproductive choices and puts coverage for basic things like birth control and pregnancy at risk. The legislation will be hurtful to the most vulnerable in our society, the elderly, the young and the sick. Graham Cassidy should not be passed. If it is I hope every Senator that votes for it is continually reminded of the harm they have done through personal stories of the people whose lives will be ruined by it.

Thanks you,
Alison Brett

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Kish [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony

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

I live (like many others) with several pre-existing conditions: chronic migraines, Bipolar II disorder, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, PCOS, and insulin resistance. But because I have excellent insurance, all of these are under control, and I lead a healthy and productive life. Without the prescriptions I take daily, I don't want to imagine the alternative. Lifetime caps on insurance would also be devastating, obviously.

I won't even get into the rest of my family, but they're in the same boat.

I would like to see a open, transparent, and bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please listen to the citizens of America, the ones who elected you and are counting on you to act in OUR best interests.

Sincerely, Barbara Kish
Corning, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Cay Brass [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassidy

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA and its expanded Medicaid program saved our lives and made it possible to survive on our small salary... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Mary Brass

Vermont

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Becca Quick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 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, Rebecca Quick

Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Silver [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
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.

Amy Silver
[REDACTED]
Highland Park, IL 60035
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Randy Bickford [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sir or Madam:

My family is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. We rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Under ACA, my family's health care has improved and costs are more affordable.

Under the ACA we can also afford to cover the employees of our small business with quality healthcare benefits. This is important to them and to the success of our business.

I urge all members of Congress to work together in a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The Graham-Cassidy bill is NOT the right approach for America's citizens.

Best regards,

Randy Bickford
Orangevale, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Reisz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve not repeal

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The two healthiest people that I know and love have pre-existing conditions and should always have affordable access to health care. It's unconscionable that that be taken from them.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Reisz

Louisville, KY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stasia Tikkanen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

To Whom it may concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My friends and family rely on Medicaid, have pre-existing conditions and disabilities and need access to health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Stasia Tikkanen

Davis, Ca

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Kouguell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with family members with pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, are extensive to detail but please know, with this proposed bill, my family and millions of others' lives will be in jeopardy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

thank you,
Susan Kouguell
Mamaroneck NY 10543

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Leigh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comment

My family relies on health insurance provided through the Affordable Care Act in Minnesota. Because of this, I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

In 2016 I was diagnosed with testicular cancer and I had it treated with an operation, but I am still in the risky surveillance period which is characterized by regular, costly exams. If Graham-Cassidy passes, my premiums are likely to rise if my pre-existing condition doesn't exclude me from coverage altogether. If I lose my coverage, I likely won't be able to afford the exams I need and my sons, in kindergarten and second grade, will risk growing up without a father.

As such, I prefer a bipartisan effort to fix the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Mark Leigh
Rochester, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Malcy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Years ago, as a 25 year old woman, I was labeled with a pre-existing cystic bleeding condition, I was forced to stay with my health insurance company and their expensive premiums for years. I had no choice and little money at the time, so my parents thankfully have the resources to cover my health insurance. Otherwise, I would have been forced to go without coverage. This should never happen, people should not have to make a choice between healthcare and purchasing groceries.

Nobody is arguing that the ACA doesn't need some tweaks but rather than repeal it, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act. If we repeal it, it strikes me as throwing the baby out with the bathwater, isn't it time we figured out a better solution.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Malcy
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marie Macaisa [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

We all deserve quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am fortunate enough to have excellent health care insurance through my employer, but that may not always be the case. I also have family and friends now who rely on ACA for their health care. Without it, they would have no coverage, and their livelihood and lives would be at risk. President Obama said the ACA was just a first step. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marie Macaisa
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher O'Brian [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Christopher O'Brian

Rochester, NY

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melanie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please, Improve ACA - DO NOT start over

Dear Sirs,

Many of my artist and self employed friends rely on the current access to quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I know many, many individuals who were not able to obtain health insurance prior to the ACA.

Everyone deserves health care. Small business is a strong thread in our economy; the little operations who provide a service and pay their taxes. Individuals with small business were not able to access or afford health insurance in our previous system; with ACA they can. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Melanie Schow
Sanger, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Natalie Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: RE: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that I'm an independent contractor, who doesn't receive health care coverage from the companies I work for. I also have preexisting conditions that I need medication to treat, and I cannot afford treatment without ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Natalie Miller

Redondo Beach, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Liz Stadther [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fix ACA, don't repeal it!

I'm a cancer survivor that cannot gamble with losing the right to affordable health care for pre-existing conditions. I'm only one, there are millions of people who have fought cancer and other potentially lethal diseases and will need to again. It's a life-or-death situation.

A good friend of mine went without health insurance for 20 years because she couldn't afford it. When she signed up under the Affordable Care Act, she had a physical that revealed multiple health issues, some serious, that were all taken care of. She will lose coverage again if the ACA is repealed, and may not be able to afford it if it isn't fixed to work as it should.

It's shameful that anyone is even talking about repeal, much less acting on it. We need a bipartisan effort to fix the existing ACA.

Sincerely,

Liz Stadther
St. Paul, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Bellows [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill - Finance Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the Finance Committee will be holding a hearing on the Graham Cassidy bill on Monday at 2 pm. I would like to let you know my situation regarding health care and my position regarding this bill.

I am a 61 year old woman living in Payson, Arizona. I was laid off of my job as a Proposal Writer in February of 2016. I had had decent health insurance through that company. The job was a full-time, work-from-home position that I had planned to continue until I was eligible for Medicare. I looked for a new position until end of 2016, at which time I put myself out there as a freelancer; I have had some success, but my income is no where near what it was!

When I was laid off, because of Obamacare, I was able to obtain affordable insurance. Not ONLY was I able to obtain affordable insurance, but I was able to have coverage for my pre-existing conditions. These include knee problems (two injuries as well as arthritis) and back problems (spinal stenosis and a herniated disc). I have not needed any major treatment for any of these problems as of yet - other than MRIs to access the situation. However, as I age, these conditions worsen despite my best efforts to keep them under control, such as swimming laps three times a week and attending water aerobics twice a week. Doctors have suggested I may soon need surgeries on both my knees, as well as my back. Now, tell me, if I lose coverage for pre-existing conditions, what will I do if/when it gets to that point?! I cannot afford even ONE of those surgeries without insurance coverage.

I also understand that the Graham Cassidy bill has a discriminatory age tax; people over 50 will pay up to 5 times more than currently. This will be unaffordable for me. So, in addition to possibly losing coverage for pre-existing conditions, I might lose coverage entirely.

Please do NOT support this bill.

Sincerely,

--

Wendy K Bellows

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Shapiro [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act importance

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have diabetes and need insulin and continuous support for related difficulties with my eyesight as well as circulatory problems.

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

Sincerely,

Janet Shapiro

Sun City West, Arizona

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony

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,
Sarah Morgan

Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Teschner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote No on Graham-Cassidy!

Aloha,

As someone with a pre-existing condition, I rely on the protections created by the Affordable Care Act. They have allowed me to leave my employer-sponsored healthcare and start my own small business knowing that I can buy affordable insurance as a self-employed entrepreneur. Graham-Cassidy will destroy these protections.

Sincerely,

John Teschner
Moloaa, Kauai, Hawaii

--

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

In 2006 I gave birth to my son Jack. Like most 11 year olds he is wonderful and frustrating (his idea of a clean room and mine are not the same) and I wouldn't trade him for the world. I would, however, trade the gestational diabetes I was diagnosed with while pregnant. I endured 6 months of insulin shots, and would do it again in a heartbeat, for him.

Thanks to the gestational diabetes I now have a highly increased chance of developing Type 2 diabetes later in life. I watch my diet, exercise, and keep track of my A1C levels. Despite the care that I am taking to protect my health, insurance companies would still see me only as a pre-existing condition if it weren't for the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill cannot guarantee me the same.

The ACA needs to be fixed, not repealed. The Graham-Cassidy bill would hurt too many Americans.

We need to do better.

Sincerely,

Molly Lewis
Sacramento, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am young woman who is hoping to have children in the next few years and this bill is a danger to anyone who becomes pregnant or has children. Pregnancy is not a pre-existing condition and women should not be penalized, especially when those who support this bill do not support any alternatives to family planning. Obamacare is the reason I am able to have healthcare, and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Elissa Sussman

Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy/Graham

I am opposed to Cassidy Graham because of the negative impact it would have on our MaineCare recipients.
Please work for a health care plan that would care for those who are unable to afford to care for themselves.

Elin Elisofon [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Vinalhaven, ME 04863
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kellie Powell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will kill people

Statement for the record: Just about everyone on the planet opposes this bill, except for the Koch brothers and their ilk.

No one with a conscience could vote for this bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diana Rhodes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

What is happening to our country? When did Republicans become a party and politic for the ultra wealthy only. Heartless and shameful! VOTE NO.

Diana Rhodes

[REDACTED]

Cheyenne, WY

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amanda Hinde [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G-C bill / NO

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. Moving forward with the proposed G-C bill is reckless, heartless, and poorly thought-out. It seems a desperate act, with grave consequences. Americans don't deserve this - we need smart leadership and compassionate action.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hinde

Mill Valley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Titania Bard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham Cassidy ACA Repeal

My family and I need the ACA ,it's my husband's healthcare insurance .It is is affordable and it allows him needed medications and to see a doctor he trusts .He has no benefits through his employer so we need the ACA .My ninety year old mother ,and my profoundly disabled sibling need Social Security ,Medicaid and Medicare . We can't afford the Graham -Cassidy Bill because It will kill real people .Karen L - Bloomington ,In 47403

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pastor John A. Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Medicaid has saved the lives of members of my family and of my church: any possible reductions in Medicaid are unacceptable. Without absolutely clear protections of persons with pre-existing conditions, other members of my family and church would be unable to afford the cost of health insurance.

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

Sincerely,
The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

Lenox, MA

The Rev. Dr. John A. Nelson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Lenox, MA 01240

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Dantino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

I am writing this plea to those who must see that this bill is no bill at all but another desperate lie by those who put party before people. I and my family are among those millions who will suffer the consequences of this irresponsible and heartless mockery of a bill. Block this bill. Listen to your conscience.

Susan Dantino
Southington CT

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Hawks [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Are you guys insane?

No hearings, no CBO Score, no vote.

Don't be stupid. America needs to shake it off.

Robert Hawks
Michigan City, Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: PAT KOFAHL [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee Members,

Without belaboring the obvious, May I say that the ACA replacement bill known as Graham-Cassidy is one of the most cynical frauds ever perpetrated on the American public?

I understand what a difficult place the Republican members of the United States Congress are in: on the one hand you have the 1%, the healthcare industry, the Koch Brothers and the rest of the arch-conservatives (in other words, your donors), clamoring and pushing you to shove 32 million Americans off of affordable medical coverage, which is now provided by the ACA.

In its place you would have each state duplicate the efforts of the Federal Government, thus placing an unrealistic and unfeasible economic burden upon them, while giving a massive tax cut to those who need it least.

You would deny the reality that while the current system is far from perfect, it has allowed millions more to obtain affordable healthcare coverage, saving untold lives and making our society more fair, equitable and robust.

You would have to acknowledge that after more than seven years, and over fifty attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, that Republicans are actually against any kind of federally run healthcare system, which in its different forms has been shown to be successful in every other developed country in the world.

Americans are watching what you are doing very closely. To quote a source that some may find significant, "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

Your actions will have consequences. Trust me.

Sincerely,

Pat Kofahl
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:22 PM
To: gchcomments

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 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.

Dr. Karen Leitner
newton, MA
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Siemon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill hearings

Hello,

I am writing from zip-code 94618 (CA), to urge the committee to reject the Cassidy "health" bill. It is a nightmare that will destroy state efforts to provide necessary health care to their citizens, devastating budgets and guaranteeing poor health outcomes for huge numbers of our citizens. No responsible government should indulge in such malicious games for the purpose of raiding the US Treasury for ill-conceived uses of taxpayers money.

sincerely,

Michael L. Siemon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't screw up healthcare

We need birth control and preexisting conditions covered explicitly. Don't continue to make healthcare harder for poor people, they need it the most!! The problems are the prices the health industry in America charges. Listen to Bernie about how other countries do healthcare!! Why are we so afraid of change when what we have now is so corrupt and stealing from the American people who are forced to choose outlandish healthcare prices or their family's health. I love my family and get insurance through my employer but pay \$600 a month for just myself and my children. I can't even afford to have my husband on my insurance as it would double that premium. He has to pay for his own separate insurance. I even have high deductible insurance!! I want coverage. I need coverage!! I need to live as long as I can to help support my moderately disabled autistic child. I just don't know why it's so much money. Along with car and house insurance, half of my salary goes to anticipating the worst with nothing saved or invested for my future.

Kim Ellis of Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kirstin Quinn Siegel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability is living in the Bay Area on a middle income means if me or my partner loses our jobs, we won't be able to afford health care for our 3 year old son. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kirstin Quinn Siegel

Richmond, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eyreka Peterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Though I work full time, I don't receive great health benefits and the ACA allows my daughter to have treatment for her pre-existing condition: Hydrocephalus. We rely on the ACA for her care and for medical care for the rest of our family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Eyreka Peterson

O'Fallon, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Alegria [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband suffers from diabetes, and I fear that his pre-existing condition will cause us unnecessary financial hardship should this bill pass. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.
Sincerely,

Nancy Alegria

San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Archer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:06 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.

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.

Chris Archer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chino Hills , California 91709

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Jacobson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 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.

Elizabeth Jacobson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gary Bellert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

HOW CAN YOU LET THIS ABOMINATION OF A BILL GET TO A VOTE WHEN MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WIL LOSE THEIR HEALTHCARE COVERAGE?

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.

Gary Bellert
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sycamore, Illinois 60178

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harold Withers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 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.

Harold Withers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Borrego Springs, California 92004

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tye Newton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 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.

Tye Newton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Portland, Maine 04101

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MarianKitty Dennis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 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.

MarianKitty Dennis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santa Cruz, California 95062

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

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.

Sincerely,

Darlene Hoffenberg

Deerfield, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Ingerson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:04 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.

Jennifer Ingerson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60640

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: r bishop [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:04 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.

r bishop
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

fort wayne in, Indiana 46815

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: N Refes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:04 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I don't understand the obsession with reject the current American Health Care Act. I agree that it is not perfect but the foundations are in place. We should shore up the current AMA in order to protect millions of American citizens.

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.

N Refes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NYC, New York 10003

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karla Frandson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:43 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.

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.

Karla Frandson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Diego, California 92128

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roger Gardner [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.

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.

Roger Gardner
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Redding, California 96003

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debi Bender [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The United States is a third world country in respect to assuring medical insurance for citizens. How embarrassing!

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.

Debi Bender
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Evansville, Indiana 47715

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Lipinski [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:51 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.

Michael Lipinski
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CA, California 94401

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Forrester [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassity

It's quite clear that this bill is a sham. It is not going to help Americans receive the health care they need and should have as a right. It is a thinly veiled attempt to save face in light of the unconditional promise by Republicans that they would get rid of "Obamacare" (at any cost!). Americans don't want this bill (they prefer keeping Obamacare and fixing its problems (63% in latest poll). If this bill passes it will cause a lot of unnecessary physical and emotional suffering, and will assuredly mean a complete defeat in the house for Republicans in 2018. Who wins? No one.

Beth Forrester

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Siobhán Hayes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote no on Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare including my mother, who has stage IV cancer and is on Medicaid. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This country should be moving in the direction of Medicaid for all, not taking away health insurance for millions of Americans. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Siobhan Hayes

Richmond, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandy Simonis [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many in our family have pre-existing health conditions, including Celiac disease, Lupus, and Diabetes. Losing medical coverage would be life threatening. As senior citizens, we rely on coverage to help us maintain our good health to remain productive members of society.

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

Sincerely, Sandra Simonis

Mundelein, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leon Van Dyke [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health bill

Folks:

I am adamantly against the proposed Graham health bill. I exist on a fixed income, and find unconscionable that you would even consider passing it.

Imagine the hurtful consequences, please.

Sincerely

Leon J. Van Dyke
[REDACTED]
Portland, Me. 04103

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judy Wain [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill hearing

We oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are both retired. Costs are projected to go up for seniors under this bill which could make necessary health care unaffordable for us. We both have cancer and are also very concerned about what will happen to those of us with pre-existing conditions. We currently have great health care with reasonable premiums and want that to continue. We urge Congress to do the right thing and not repeal the Affordable Care Act. If reasonable changes need to be made, this should be done on a bipartisan basis.

Judy Wain
Roseville, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Reynolds [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:06 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.

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.

Thomas Reynolds
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Voorheesville, New York 12186

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Favorite [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:47 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.

Charles Favorite
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Isle, Minnesota 56342-4772

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BELINDA MYERS [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:47 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.

BELINDA MYERS
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bloomington, Indiana 47403

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Knipp [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:47 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.

Donna Knipp
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, New York 10034

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Vance [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 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.

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.

Susan Vance
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pleasanton, California 94588

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edward Landler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 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.

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.

Edward Landler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California 90065

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn Woodard <carolyn.woodard@yan...m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cancer co-pays shouldn't add to your health problems or the stress on your family

Hello,

I am a breast cancer survivor. I have insurance through my husband's employment. We had to pay \$6,000 over 2 months last summer because we met the yearly cap the month before the insurance year changed and then the first month of the new insurance year. It was hard for my family but we had savings and I was grateful it wasn't more than that.

My parents are aging and live 8 hours away. We would like to move to be closer to them, but are afraid to change jobs and perhaps of losing our insurance. And the job that my husband interviewed for two years ago at a community college there was just cut. What if he had taken the job and then lost it, in the midst of my cancer journey?

Every week when I went for my chemo treatments I would sit in the waiting room and listen to the patient billing staff try to help families figure out a payment plan to help cover their co-pays. Once a family was there from 4 hours away in western Virginia, because they were shopping for a treatment center that they could afford for their middle aged parent who had no insurance. The teenage kids were trying everything they could with the help of a relative to find a place their very sick mother could be treated. Believe me when I say I heard people with problems paying every week trying to figure out what to do. I have several friends with gofundme pages for their medical expenses or that of their kids. It is great that some communities can step up to help them out. What if you have no community? What if your community can only raise \$1000 and your treatment costs a million? What about people with chronic conditions, some from childhood, that will require treatments and medication their entire life?

I remember the television commercial and Sarah Palin talking about the "death panels" who would decide when elderly people would qualify for life-saving treatments and when it would be too expensive. It seems to me that those death panels are coming now - and there aren't even panels of experts deciding who can pay to live and who will have to die - it's just insurance and pharmaceutical companies making all the decisions based on profit.

I don't believe everyone has a right to good health. You may be healthy, you may be injured, you may develop cancer. You have to face what comes. But I do believe this: our country is better off - economically, socially - when our fellow Americans are as healthy as they can be. We all have an interest in helping each other be as healthy as possible. Right now we seem to be determined to return to a system of health that is as expensive as possible without any positive outcomes. A system of leaving it up to the market will NOT WORK. Please do not take away health care from millions of Americans without something to replace it with that will cover as many people as the ACA and will incentivize people to seek better health and companies to provide preventative and basic care for everyone, not through Emergency Room visits or astronomical deductibles.

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill.

Carolyn Woodard
Casanova VA 20139

Being a caregiver 24/7 is HARD, no matter how much you love someone. It's exhausting and backbreaking and yes, rewarding All of it. But no-one is superhuman. We need the help we get. We didn't ask for this. A very certainly didn't ask for this. We didn't do something to "earn" this lot in life (is that really what we've come to telling people anyway - it's their punishment for some past choices or actions, some sort of pay-back?). We want to care for her always, at home, within our community, but it takes a support system that includes government safety nets to do so. Our terror is not unfounded. It's not families like ours being "overly dramatic" - we have little time for extra, unnecessary drama, believe me. Medicaid law and funding is complex and nuanced. I know because we live it and I've worked it for the last 10 years. I know it and understand it in ways I wish I didn't need to or have to. Please remember that healthcare isn't some nebulous thing - there are real people, real lives in this debate. You know them. Please don't forget them. Don't turn a blind eye to them in the name of politics.

The changes to Medicaid proposed in this bill will be devastating to families like ours. Home and Community based services (Waiver services) are not required services, and when funding is lacking (as it will be) they will be some of the first services to be reduced. There are already waiting lists for these services here and across our nation. People in need, people who are eligible are going without because there is already not enough funding. This Graham Cassidy Bill promises states flexibility while reducing their funding. It creates a mechanism for great healthcare inequality in the United States of America. Why? Why is that an end goal of any interest? I suppose the thought it that states "will take care of their own" and provide the funds needed to make up a short-fall, but let's be honest. That will NEVER happen in a state like Indiana. Or Mississippi. Or Texas. No matter what, people scream about paying any more in taxes. Why should be put vulnerable children, people with disabilities, the aged, etc. in their hands? You want us to trust your plan, but we can't trust our own communities in many cases? It's the Federal funding and guarantee that has offered these populations care and protection. Now this bill wants to undo that. Please vote NO and work with the Democrats to craft a bill that really addresses the healthcare needs of this country. Please stop playing politics with our most vulnerable. We'd appreciate having one less battle to fight for our children!

Thank you,

Holly Paauwe

Indianapolis, IN

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Womack <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

Please do NOT pass this bill. My wife and I depend on the ACA as it is.

Tom Womack

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Au [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician at Emory-St. Joseph's hospital in Atlanta, I write on behalf of me, my patients, and my family 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.

Continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act is critical to addressing a number of the biggest challenges facing our health system, including uneven quality and deaths due to medical errors, discriminatory practices by health insurance providers and the shrinking ranks of the nation's primary care providers. The ACA is helping to shift our health system from one that focuses on treating the sick to one that focuses on keeping people healthy.

Under the law, millions of previously uninsured Americans now have affordable and comprehensive health coverage, driving down the national uninsured rate. Since its enactment, the law has provided 137 million Americans with access to preventive health care services such as vaccines, disease screenings, well-child visits and tobacco cessation counseling without co-pays or deductibles. More than 39 million seniors and people with disabilities have also accessed preventive services without cost through the Medicare program. In addition, millions of young adults up to age 26 are able to stay on their parents' health insurance plans, and up to 129 million individuals with pre-existing conditions are protected from insurance coverage denials. The ACA also provides critical mandatory funding through the Prevention and Public Health Fund for community-based prevention and wellness activities, including efforts to control the obesity epidemic, reduce tobacco use and modernize vaccination systems. Eliminating this funding would devastate the budget of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where the fund now makes up 12 percent of the agency's annual budget.

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.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle Au, MD

[REDACTED]
Department of Anesthesiology
Emory St. Joseph's Hospital
[REDACTED] Atlanta, GA
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Glenn Curtin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham -Cassidy

This is a hastily put together bill with no provisions or assurances for those in my family with pre-existing health issues. It is designed only to get a "win" for those who sit in Congress and are unaffected by the consequences and to gain favor with the president.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Levario [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments; Jurinka, Elizabeth (Finance)
Subject: LGBTQ Groups Letter Opposing Graham-Cassidy
Attachments: LGBTQ Groups SFinance Opposing Graham-Cassidy.pdf

Attached please find the letter from 115 groups supporting LGBTQ equality opposing the Graham Cassidy proposal.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

Andrea Levario

--

Andrea Levario
Senior Public Policy Advocate | Human Rights Campaign

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Hoover <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments; Nancy Hoover
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the Cassidy-Graham bill. Not only because it is being forced through the Senate with no support from healthcare experts, the medical community, and insurance companies (and no CBO score) but also because of the substance of its policies.

As a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, I find this bill to be grossly inadequate for numbers of reasons.

First, many Americans will lose their health insurance which is and should be considered a human right for all.

Second, many American's health will be adversely affected, some fatally by the
a. preexisting conditions considered as an impediment to obtaining insurance
b. discriminating against the people who need care the most and are least likely to be able to obtain
health care
c. Medicaid coverage is a lifeline for many people and without it they will become sicker and will die

Third, I am a mother and my 30 year old son developed a life threatening Pulmonary Arteriovenous Malformation. He will carry this diagnosis throughout his life and could be denied coverage or only able to get coverage at exorbitant costs.

Fourth, I am above 60 years and can I look forward to a limited income and markedly increased premiums and drug costs.

Fifth, Timmy Morrison is my patient. His video is included below, The Morrison family is so brave even when they are looking at desperate times in health care. I have gotten to know some of the other families in the Little Lobbyists. Mark Morrison's letter is below.

Sixth, any health care legislation that is passed needs to be the SAME as what Congressional staff receives so you and your staff and all their families will be impacted in the same way.

**Sincerely,
Nancy Hoover, CRNP**

Below is the letter from Mark Morrison, founder of Little Lobbyists.

I am a father. My son, Timmy, turns 7 in a week. He was born a week after the ACA was implemented with Opitz GBBB syndrome, a genetic condition that effects the midline structures of his body. Today he breathes through a trach in his neck and is fed through a g-tube in his stomach. Please keep our story in mind as you consider altering our nation's healthcare system:

<https://www.vox.com/.../14563182/obamacare-lifetime-limits-ban>

A healthcare system that does not include the following policies in their entirety will be met with the full opposition of the community of parents with medically complex children across America:

1. Real protections for those with pre-existing conditions so that people are not discriminated against if they suddenly have to use the insurance they've been paying into.
2. Essential Health Benefits preservation.
3. The ban against lifetime limits
4. A robust and expanded Medicaid program in EVERY state.
5. The ability to keep children on their parents' insurance till the age of 26.

In the past several months, I have helped start a new organization called the Little Lobbyists (www.littlelobbyists.org). It is made up of 20 local families from DC, MD, VA, WV, and PA who also have children with complex medical needs. We have committed to advocate for the healthcare needs of our children on Capitol Hill. We have asked for parents of children with complex medical needs from across the country to share their stories with us. Stories of hope and triumph in the face of unimaginable circumstances. Stories of fear of what the GOP has tried time and time again to do to our healthcare system in the past several months. We have received over 260 stories from 48 states from these dedicated parents, parents who don't have the time to advocate for the needs of their children because they are spending their days trying to keep them alive. I and other parents in the Little Lobbyists organization have been taking these stories to you and your senatorial colleagues. They are stories from your constituents. Stories you need to hear.

I have primarily been responsible for formatting these stories. The running theme behind all of them is this: health care is a matter of life and death to these kids. Weakening protections under the ACA will have devastating consequences for these families as well as mine.

Please hear us. Find a bipartisan fix to the ACA. Stop threatening to dismantle the life we have worked so hard to foster in our son. Please build a system that not only protects his present but his future as well. Our lives are in your hands.

I'm attaching my son's profile as well as pictures of the binder full of stories from across the country that we've worked so hard to compile, format, and deliver to all 96 Senators they represent.

Sincerely,
Mark Morrison

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christine Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

From:
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Madison, WI 53704

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

As a cancer survivor who is acutely aware of the specter of its return, and as an American citizen, I write to express my deep opposition to the draconian, cruel and amoral Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. The sponsors of this Proposal vowed that it would replace the ACA with something better and more affordable. This Proposal fails miserably in all respects.

It has been crafted, introduced, and discussed in a deeply undemocratic manner. I demand a full and fair hearing on this legislation after it has been analyzed by the Congressional Budget Office. The last bill scored by the CBO had an approval rating of 12%, yet this bill is moving forward and is even worse than the last bill scored.

Millions of elderly individuals and people with disabilities rely on traditional Medicaid for their lives, well-being, and independence. Although the Congressional Budget Office Analysis has not been completed for this Proposal, it is similar or worse to previous bills that would radically restructure Medicaid, kicking millions of Americans off health care. Reducing the number of insured means that thousands of people will die needlessly for a tax cut for the wealthiest Americans.

Medicaid saves the lives of people with disabilities who rely on things like tracheotomy care, nursing care, dialysis, cancer treatments, occupational therapy, speech therapy, life-saving medications, durable medical equipment, and more to work. With health insurance through Medicaid, they live full, independent lives will be at risk. These people are our family members, our neighbors, our coworkers, and our friends. We are the wealthiest country in the world. We can and should provide Medicaid for the elderly and people with disabilities.

This Proposal will impact pregnant women and children, who are insured by Medicaid in high numbers. In Wisconsin, 28% of all kids are covered by Medicaid. Nearly half of all US births are covered by Medicaid. For many children with disabilities and extensive health care needs, Medicaid is again lifesaving, and again, cutting it could literally put children's lives at risk. Children who receive regular health care to treat things like asthma, diabetes, and treatable medical problems fare better in school, miss fewer days of school, are more likely to graduate, and earn higher wages than those without health care.

The changes to the Affordable Care Act are also deeply troubling. The proposal opens the door to imposing pre-existing condition exclusions again, limiting essential health services, and reducing the affordability of health insurance, which will result in millions more losing health insurance they only recently gained. All studies done thus far on health outcomes for individuals newly insured through the ACA show the enormous positive impact of insured status. Many people with disabilities rely on ACA coverage when they could no longer work due to a diagnosis, but had to wait two years after a disability determination before Medicare would begin.

Many people rely on the ACA to receive cancer treatment. They owe their lives to the Affordable Care Act. I also have friends with full time jobs that did not offer health insurance and could only afford health insurance offered through the ACA with subsidies. These individuals obtained services to treat chronic illnesses such as diabetes, illnesses that would worsen without treatment and then require costly but are preventable. The Proposal fails to make insurance more affordable and in fact, will price ordinary Americans out of any insurance market, returning to the days when a cancer patient who couldn't work couldn't access health care, where a person with asthma couldn't afford health insurance due to a pre-existing condition, where a person working a full-time job couldn't afford health insurance. This is not what Americans want.

I am submitting this testimony to the committee to ensure that it is entered into the official record of these proceedings. I want the record of this committee to show that those who voted for this Proposal were fully aware of its devastating and destructive impact and were told by millions of American citizens that this is not what we want.

Christine Johnson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Plunkett <[REDACTED]> m>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern-

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing, rare auto immune disease that can require treatment. To take this available treatment away would be devastating to my quality of life.

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

Sincerely,

Heather
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Swifka [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fw: Vote NO

Please vote No on Graham-Cassidy bill. Health care is not supposed to hurt people but this bill is certain to hurt millions of Americans, especially people like my 19 year old son who has a disability. Medicaid dollars supported him in school and now help him to be independent in his community. He wants what every other young man wants: to live independently, to have a job, to be a contributing member of his community. Medicaid dollars are helping him do that.

Without those supports, what will he do? Sit on the couch the rest of his days?

Please vote NO!

Mary Swifka

[REDACTED]
New London WI 54961

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Benjamin Weintraub [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill stinks

This bill is the antithesis of providing healthcare for the people of this nation!

Benjamin Weintraub, MD, FAAP

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Instead, improve the ACA so that health insurance is affordable to more Americans. Improve the marketplace. Work with each other instead of against each other in serving the American people. Our lives are in your hands.

When the roof needs repair, do NOT burn down the HOUSE!

Thank you,
Jean Krak
zip 80440

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Comments

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with (Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disability, affordability etc.) is... It is time for a bipartisan effort to strengthen and protect the Affordable Care Act. We cannot afford to repeal a law that helps so many Americans.

Sincerely, Chris Barnett

Minneapolis, MN

CB

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christopher Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Christopher Davis
Castro Valley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: wey-vey kwok [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Passage of Graham-Cassidy would be a tragedy

We've had our share of natural disasters this year. Let's not add to that a government-made disaster of epic proportions. Graham-Cassidy will devastate the lives of too many millions of people who need health care - from preventive services to critical treatment. The cuts it proposes will inflict lasting damage on our health care system and workforce as well. It is a HUGE step backwards and just a plain old bad idea. Fix our health care system. Don't gut it.

Wey-Wey Kwok
[REDACTED]
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Cuzzocreo [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

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 -- children, disabled people, and elderly people.

You were elected to help Americans, not harm those of us who are in desperate need of assistance. We know that the provision of affordable, accessible healthcare to everyone ultimately strengthens our economy and communities. We know that a bipartisan majority of U.S. voters support the ACA and oppose repeal. Please fix the ACA, stabilize insurance markets, and move on to other business without hurting more of our citizens.

Thank you for your time,

Jennifer Cuzzocreo

Hamden, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care

Having access to health care is critical for me and my family. The ACA stops insurers from excluding coverage of pre-existing conditions. I'm terrified that this will be changed and that insurers will be able to exclude coverage for pre-existing conditions. Here is my story: My husband was born with one shrunken kidney. The doctors don't know whether this caused high-blood pressure or not but think so. He had chronic high blood pressure but was unaware of this for several years. When it was detected - he was 35 at the time, he immediately took pre-cautionary measures. He went to see a nephrologist and took medication for both blood pressure and kidney function. We regularly monitored his health for four years. He is a non-smoker and non-drinker, he exercises and eats healthy. Early last year, we discovered that his kidney function had declined significantly. Because I am a foreign service officer for the US government, I have excellent health insurance. We were posted overseas, living in Tblisi, Georgia. I was no longer able to serve overseas, so we immediately moved back to the US. Upon our return to the US, we immediately went to a transplant center. My husband was told that he would need a transplant soon or he would have to go on dialysis. He was 40 years old. Fortunately, I was a direct match as a kidney donor. Within 3 months of returning to the US, we had successfully undergone kidney transplant surgery. The bill for this surgery was over \$140,000. Because my insurance was so good, I was only out of pocket by \$5,000. The medical care has been fantastic. My insurance company assigned a nurse to oversee our case and to both control costs and ensure that the best care possible was received. I am very thankful to the doctors and to the insurance company for such great care. In addition, my husband qualifies for medicare. I've been advised that we should get this coverage in addition to my insurance because medicare covers the cost of the kidney donor's health care costs. The most shocking part of the story to me is the cost of the drugs that my husband now needs to take daily to ensure that his body does not reject my kidney. The cost is \$80,000 a year! Fortunately, my insurance covers most of the cost of the drugs. I cannot imagine what would happen if they didn't. I have a good salary as USG employee; however, that would be 3/4ths of my annual salary if we needed to pay for the drugs. The other shocking aspect is how much better it is for the person to have a kidney transplant rather than rely on dialysis plus that the cost of a kidney transplant is a pittance when compared to dialysis over a long period of time. As a kidney donor, I am extremely health but now have a pre-existing condition.. Medicare coverage is for 3 years following a transplant.

Please make sure that health care coverage does not remove the protections for pre-existing conditions. I also request reviewing pharmaceutical prices. Other countries have reasonable costs for live-saving drugs, why can't the US?

A resident of Virginia

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: michele nathan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Michele Nathan
MA

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Steve and Jen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Elizabeth Warren; senator@markey.senate.gov
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham Cassidy health care proposal. I am particularly concerned about the proposed changes to Medicaid and health care. I write to you today from two perspectives: as a professional and as a parent.

As a professional, I spend my days working to improve services and supports for people with developmental disabilities, in order to increase their engagement as full members of their communities. Medicaid is the backbone of such services, and even the change to a block grant could have significant implications for the ability to continue to improve such services. Add to that cuts to Medicaid and people with disabilities and their families could be left without the basic services they need to live their daily lives.

As a parent, I have recently had the privilege of adopting a young child from China and this has been an eye opening experience. I learned that most of the children available for international adoption in China these days are children with disabilities or special health care needs, many of whom ended up in orphanages simply because their families could not afford the care they needed. I am blessed with a beautiful four year old, but it is heartbreaking to think that her family of origin is missing out on seeing what an amazing child she's grown to be, likely because they could not afford the surgery she needed for spina bifida, something that (under the current system) any child in our great country would have had at birth.

For all of these reasons and many more, I implore you not to pass this bill in such a rushed manner. The Senate has a responsibility to take the time to fully understand the implications of its actions for individuals and their families before making such a drastic move.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Sulewski

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mike Raff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: One voter's perspective

Senators,

I'm 61 years old and approaching the end of a satisfying, but not especially lucrative career. However, through hard work and good fortune I am now in a position to retire comfortably, according to my financial advisor.

Except for one thing--health insurance. I am too young to enroll in Medicare and I have the kind of pre-existing condition that, despite being well-controlled for more than twenty years, makes me undesirable in the individual insurance market.

Fortunately, my wife is younger and receives insurance from her employer and I am eligible to go on her plan if I retire. Except for one thing. My wife has recently expressed a desire to return to school full-time to pursue her Ph.D.

We've crunched the numbers. If I retire and she quits her job to go back to school, our healthcare costs would likely quadruple.

If I retire, my employer could easily hire two recent college grads for what they are paying me now. And my wife, currently a K-8 Math Specialist, could influence an even greater number of students if she began teaching pre-service (undergrad and grad students) and in-service (public school teachers working towards their masters degrees) full-time, as is her intention, once she has her doctorate, equipping students with the kind of skills demanded by the 21st century economy.

But if the health insurance marketplace is not improved, we'll just stay in our current jobs. Financially, we have little choice.

That's why I'm asking you to vote "No" on Graham-Cassidy. It's not the solution (or the process) this country needs. We deserve better.

Thank you

Michael Raff
Richmond, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Thompson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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. Not to mention weakening protections for pre existing conditions and giving states an out on necessary coverage!!!

Sarah Thompson
Rochester NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marilyn Humphreys [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments; Dent, William (Isakson); Wright, Kevin (Finance)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill vote

Please OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

I live in Atlanta, GA. Our daughter is 41 and has been severely disabled since she was 14 months. When my husband and i were younger we could manage all of her care. We have been blessed as she has aged with access to the Georgia COMP waiver through Medicaid. This funding provides for medical support and caregivers so that she can remain at home and be supported out in the community. My husband and I still are responsible for her great physical needs more than 50% of the time. As we are now in our 70s the prospect of losing medical and care giving funding or having to put her in a nursing home is beyond comprehension for her quality of life and ours.

THE COMING DECISIONS THAT YOU MAKE CAN SUPPORT A FULFILLED HUMAN LIFE OR CAN BE DESTRUCTIVE OF A HUMAN LIFE.

On behalf of our daughter and the many others in the disabled community, we strongly urge you to be compassionate in your thinking and your actions.

Thank you,
Marilyn Humphreys

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

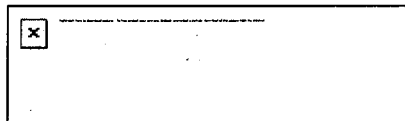
From: Michael Wexler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: #Graham-Cassidy

Yes, Obamacare has issues but Graham-Cassidy is far worse. Aren't we a better people than to leave the most needy amongst us out in the cold to die?

--

Best,

Michael Wexler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa Coons [redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham bill

I am opposed to the Cassidy-Graham bill. I don't trust my governor to do what's best for the people of my state (Wisconsin). He is only influenced by special interests and wealthy donors. I have experience with the private insurance market before the ACA and after. The ACA is a huge improvement. I would like to see Congress work together to fix the problems with the ACA. I am disgusted with partisan politics and want to see Washington work together to make things better for all Americans.

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Woodbury [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Disaster

Dear Congressman Kennedy and Other Esteemed Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I know you've been flooded with emails so I will try to keep this short.

Up until the summer of 2017 I was a normal, healthy, 26 year old who only used my health insurance for my annual check up. On June 22, 2017 3 fingers on my right hand went numb. 4 days later my right cheek went numb, After 5 MRI's, a lumbar puncture, numerous blood and spinal fluid tests I've been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

I have no family history, no signs prior to this summer. There is nothing I did or didn't do to have this disease.

Luckily I have insurance through my employer and my \$30,000 worth of medical expenses (accrued over 3 moths, mind you) was reduced to \$5,000 which, let's face it, most 26 year olds don't have lying around. Again, I consider myself lucky.

However if I ever wanted to leave my employer, start my own business, or lost my job I am now permanently branded with a pre-existing condition. Under this bill myself and millions like me would not be able to obtain the coverage or care required for them.

I am prepared to fight this disease and take whatever it may throw at me. Please continue to fight for my rights and the rights of millions of Americans to have access to the health care we need.

Thank you for your time,

Rebecca Woodbury
Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Simone Howe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Americans need and deserve affordable health care. We should not be denied care or have to pay higher premiums because of preexisting conditions.

I was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 49. My daughter was only 30 years old when she was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. At the time, she was a graduate student and self-employed engineer. She was lucky to have insurance through the ACA.

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

Sincerely,
Simone Howe
Durham, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Nolton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comments on Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senators -

I just wanted to register my negative comments against the Graham Cassidy healthcare proposal. Although I am of the belief that work remains to improve the Obamacare healthcare system, I believe that a bi-partisan and more traditional approach to crafting the appropriate legislation is needed. We need something that's inclusive to the needs of all (or most, at least) Americans, not something that will dangerously imperil the most vulnerable citizens of our country.

Please do not support the Graham Cassidy healthcare legislation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jill Nolton
resident of Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Collins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill

Re: "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017"

From: Pat Collins

[REDACTED]
Minneapolis, MN 55419

The process of hiding and continually changing the content of this bill without allowing full consideration by the CBO and the American people is unethical and undemocratic. It risks the loss of healthcare for 30 million people.

I am a psychologist who has worked daily with people of varying degrees of mental health concerns. Some, due to severe symptoms are unable to work, or would never be hired to work in a job that would provide a livable income and sufficient health care benefits. The public seems to be very concerned about safety, and in particular, safety from dangerous people with mental health issues. How is someone like me able to serve these people, make an appropriate assessment and make sure they get adequate care, if there is no funding for it?

Any option of a la carte care decreases the risk pool and raises rates for all of us.

Please stand for the American people instead of for politics or for tax cuts for the wealthy.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bousquet, Jenny [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My family's health care

My family's true stories about health care seem very ordinary compared to those of so many other Americans' stories that I've read about and that have been shared with lawmakers over recent months. But perhaps those stories will help to illustrate the ways in which ordinary, middle class people stand to lose if the protections of the Affordable Care Act are weakened or lost through the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation.

In the late 1990s, long before enactment of the ACA, my husband and I sought help for our daughter who was struggling academically in the early years of high school, despite evidence that she was quite capable. Insurance through my husband's employer covered our daughter's counseling. Years later, she was able to continue on the employer's plan when she entered college, but when she stopped out of college at the age of 20 to work for several years, she lost that coverage. Her employers did not provide health insurance, so we sought coverage through the private insurance market. The only coverage we could find excluded mental health coverage due to a pre-existing condition based on a history of depression as noted in counseling records from many years prior. Additionally, there was no plan available that would cover pregnancy. That was not quality, health-promoting coverage, but it was all we could get in the years before the ACA.

Also before enactment of the ACA, my sister's middle class family experienced hardships that would have been lightened considerably had they occurred a few years later after the landmark legislation was enacted. My sister who was in her late 50s lost her full-time job as a registered nurse when she was not able to keep up with the crushing paperwork demands. Suffering from what we now know were early effects of Alzheimer's with which she was diagnosed at age 62, she was not able to find and keep another position. Soon after she lost her job, her husband, at 64, also lost his job when his employer's company closed. With the sudden reduction in income, they could not afford to continue their coverage under COBRA or to purchase comprehensive coverage for themselves and their teenage daughter. Despite both of them having chronic health conditions, they were forced to limp along with coverage gaps and underinsurance until they both became eligible for Medicare at 65.

My son, age 25, has benefitted from key provisions of the ACA, and stands to lose a lot with its repeal. Through college and since his graduation three years ago, he has been able to remain on my husband's employer-provided health insurance. (Because he was also working fulltime, he could have chosen to purchase insurance through his employer). Last year, much to our shock, our otherwise healthy son was diagnosed with cancer and underwent successful surgery in September. Now enrolled in graduate school, he will turn 26 next June. He will be seeking health insurance from another source, but the ACA provides him with the security of knowing he will be able to obtain comprehensive, high-quality insurance at a reasonable price, despite what will always be his pre-existing condition, one of the most expensive and feared of all: cancer.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Danee Kaplan <daneekaplan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony on Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

My thoughts on Graham/Cassidy: This bill is terrible. There is nothing in this bill that serves the American people. As a patient with a genetic condition that I passed on to both children before I knew I had it and a Certified Nurse Midwife and Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, I see both sides of our healthcare system.

Graham/Cassidy will raise rates across the board by 20% according to all estimates I have seen. It will immediately cause millions of people to lose coverage beginning right away- like in Michigan where state law says we have to stop participating in the highly successful Medicaid Expansion immediately if the law changes and over the next 10 years as the Medicaid program is moved to block grants and then eventually defunded so significantly as to render it a completely different program by 2026.

Graham/Cassidy, takes away protections that are in the best interest of all Americans including the 10 essential health benefits- which ARE healthcare, without these benefits, a policy does not provide healthcare. I compare it to buying a car without breaks or spark plugs- pretty worthless. It takes away protection for pre-existing conditions by allowing states to very easily opt out all together or to allow insurance companies to provide bare bones, expensive policies to the sickest people. This bill brings back yearly and lifetime caps. The only benefit it retains is allowing kids to stay on their parents' coverage.

The bill is disgustingly misogynistic- by taking away birth control, prenatal care, maternity and postpartum care there WILL be a huge increase in unplanned and unwanted pregnancies. People often do not want a pregnancy because they cannot afford it. This bill makes it all so much worse by taking away prenatal and maternity care which will give women with 10's of thousands of dollars in medical bills right out of the gate. Without parental care and a way for unhealthy moms to avoid pregnancy, there will be a large increase very sick babies. To set a policy that will lead to a huge spike in babies born with conditions that could have been avoided is one of the most disgusting things I have seen in legislation that is this close to passing. These babies that will have life-long health issues simply because Graham/Cassidy took away their healthcare from the day they were conceived. It will bring many women further into poverty as they struggle to pay medical bills related to unplanned pregnancies...in American where over 30% of births are surgical that means that prenatal care and birth can cost a woman \$15k-35k for unprotected sex. Unprotected because this bill takes away birth control ACCESS for many women. Without insurance, many doctors won't even see a woman for birth control even if she could pay out-of-pocket. All of this will in turn bring many more children into extreme poverty- not only the infant but siblings as well.

Hospitals will once again struggle to cover unreimbursed costs. The ACA drastically lowered these costs for hospitals. Because Graham/Cassidy ends the Medicaid Expansion, and also decimates Medicaid and defunds Planned Parenthood hospitals will again struggle to absorb the tremendous burden of unpaid bills, while more Americans fall into bankruptcy. Smaller hospitals will close making access to care even more difficult. All of this is exacerbated by the defunding Planned Parenthood and Medicaid services for family planning and prenatal/birth care which is NOT a reversal of ACA policy but reverses programs made decades ago. Hospitals will be in much worse shape than they were prior to the ACA.

Americans WILL suffer greatly under this bill and it will be easy to identify the cause. Graham/Cassidy would go down as one of the worst pieces of legislation in recent history because it will destabilize 1/6 of our economy simply because the ACA is a good program. It needs some problems fixed but the GOP has identified itself as the repeal ACA political party for so long they have lost sight of what is right and what is wrong. The idea that we have to throw away an entire bill-

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Darren Hillock [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't damage Medicaid

Don't damage Medicaid! Vote NO! -- Darren Hillock

--

Darren Hillock

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

one that offers Americans a lot of protections, dropped the uninsured rate significantly and protect hospitals by drastically reducing uncompensated care is immature and unethical. It isn't an all-or-nothing issue. We can fix the problems with the ACA in a much more fiscally responsible way than to rewrite the entire program- and I know that you all know that.. The GOP hated that Obama wrote a decent first start to healthcare reform so they branded it a failure from the start. But over the last 8 years Americans realized it isn't a failure at all. While the tide turned and people realized that having access to affordable healthcare is important the GOP continued branding themselves the party of repeal. Now they have an identity problem that they created and their solution is to shove a horrible bill down American's throats in order fix their identify issues and give themselves a "win". During the 8 years they became the "repeal" party, they couldn't be bothered to spend the time and effort it takes to write a comprehensive healthcare bill that fixes the problems they see. Trying to slap something through in order to 'check a box' will not end well if 3 GOP Senators can't find the courage to stand up to Trump and their donors the negative economic and human toll will be devastating.

Danee Kaplan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Philip Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham / Cassidy

I am writing to voice my strenuous opposition to the horrendous Graham-Cassidy bill. Even if Alaska and Maine benefit, the rest of the country will suffer.

Michael Philip Davis
President & Executive Director, Remi Arts, Inc.

[REDACTED]
Bronx, NY 10463-16147
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Victoria Weisman [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 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 even though my family will not be affected, I care about the health and well being of ALL Americans and am willing to pay higher taxes so everyone can enjoy the benefits of having peace of mind and affordable access to good health.

Victoria Weisman

19008
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lesley Carter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Urging you to reject Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

I respectfully urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill - it will cause not only considerable harm to me (as a person with a preexisting condition) but also to many, many other Americans who were finally able to obtain health insurance thanks to the Affordable Care Act after years of being uninsured and living with the daily risk of bankruptcy due to potential medical costs.

I have read many comments from those whose premiums have increased as a result of the ACA. So too have mine. There is still work to do to resolve the issues we have in this country with healthcare - but putting the funding decisions in the hands of individual states is not the solution. A single payer solution and removing profit from the protection of human life and wellbeing - THIS is the path forward. Not dropping 32 million Americans from insurance coverage, or stripping Medicare under the guise of 'restructuring' it.

Thank you.
Lesley Carter

[REDACTED]
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Fallon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:00 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson
Attachments: Comment to Finance Committee _Policy Matters.pdf

Please see attached the comments to the Finance Committee about the Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson Bill from Policy Matters Ohio

Health & Human Services

Comment to the Senate Finance Committee on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments to the Finance Committee on the proposed Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill. Policy Matters Ohio is an Ohio based policy research institute that closely examines budgetary and health implications of state and federal policy decisions and we're grateful to be able to summarize some of our findings here.

All Americans want to be healthy and receive the care they need when they are sick. We are very discouraged that instead of taking bipartisan steps to improve the strength and stability of America's health insurance system, this legislation threatens the health and financial security of millions of Americans.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has helped more Ohioans achieve access to health care and protection from financial ruin due to sickness or injury. Through the ACA, Ohio was also able to enroll about 200,000 people in a marketplace plan, more than 700,000 through Medicaid expansion, and drop the uninsured rate to 6.5 percent in 2015. As a result, now more Ohioans receive care, fewer Ohioans struggle to pay medical bills, and hundreds of deaths are avoided each year.^[1]

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (CGHJ) bill would reverse gains made by the ACA, leave millions uninsured, and create new financial risks for states that threaten health care for all. The bill falters on coverage, process and equity, and will **have disastrous impacts on Ohio and our families.**

Most Ohioans who will lose health coverage are working adults or children

CGHJ eliminates the ACA's marketplace subsidies and tax credits, which help Ohioans afford coverage. The bill also places per capita caps on the Medicaid program, and ends the flexible federal state fiscal partnership that allows Medicaid to meet demand in times of recession, natural disaster, and epidemics. Like the previous bills, which Senators McCain, Murkowski, Collins, Portman, Heller, and countless others raised objections to, the cuts and caps will force states to make hard choices about who gets served, and what services can be afforded. Over time, millions will lose coverage as out-of-pocket costs soar and consumer protections, which ensure coverage regardless of gender and health status, are reduced. Estimates suggest that by 2027, upwards of 32 million Americans would lose coverage.

The expansion of health insurance through Medicaid and the marketplace has helped provide coverage to hard working lower income Ohioans. The vast majority of people who would lose insurance are working families. Under the ACA, the uninsured rate among working Ohioans declined 39 percent. Many of these working Ohioans gained coverage through Medicaid expansion, which covered people a family of three making \$27,800 a year or less. Many do not have health benefits through their jobs, despite working full time. These are the workers that make up the backbone of the state's economy. Repeal will leave these hard-working Ohioans out in the cold.

Figure 1

leaving Ohio without funding to replace the lost expansion funds. This punishes Ohio for working hard to successfully insure hard-working Americans.

The combined changes in financing leave Ohio in a particularly precarious financial position. These funding changes leave states with little flexibility to weather downturns or crises that may push their costs up. Ohio will be in a uniquely problematic position because of our aging population and mounting challenges associated with the drug epidemic. This proposal puts Ohio, and all of our health partners in the state--safety net providers, hospitals, doctors—in a challenging and risky position.

Endangers those with pre-existing conditions

The bill also removes one of the most popular and important protections that helps Americans access fair, affordable coverage. GCHJ allows states to waive the ACA’s protections for pre-existing conditions, that bar insurance companies from charging those with pre-existing conditions thousands of dollars above standard rates to obtain the same coverage. Data from Health and Human Services shows shocking shares of our population have a pre existing health condition, which includes conditions such as cancer, mental disorders, obesity and pregnancy (and expectant parent). Without explicit protections for pre-existing conditions, some companies have expanded pre-existing conditions to include problems such as acne and high blood pressure, a list that likely affects someone in most households.

The lack of protections gives insurers the option to charge an exorbitant price for coverage, hitting many of Ohio’s most vulnerable residents the hardest. According to the Center for American Progress, those addicted to opioids –as well as those with chronic illness such as rheumatoid arthritis—would face surcharges of more than \$20,000 a year in addition to regular premiums. This could lead to discrimination against segments of the population (e.g., older adults, LGBT community) or consumers with specific chronic conditions (e.g. mental health or substance use disorders).

Reduces services to those with substance abuse problems, and mental health concerns

The combination of cuts to Medicaid and waiving rules on pre-existing conditions would also leave Ohio without options to treat citizens with substance use disorders or mental health concerns. Cuts to Medicaid cut access to treatments and life-saving overdose medicine for those with drug addiction.

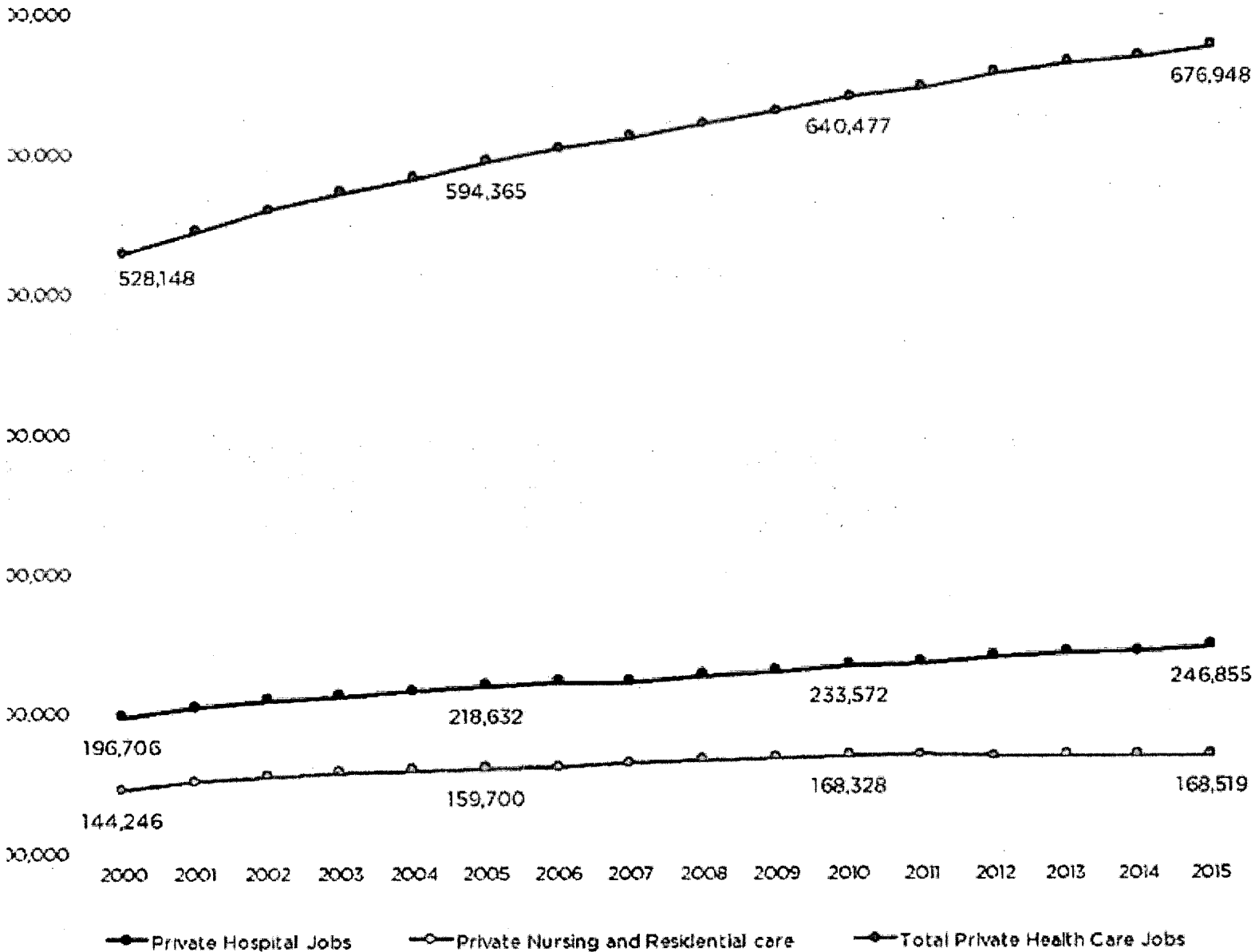
Additionally, this proposal allows states to waive the requirement that insurers cover essential health benefits including mental health services, substance abuse treatments and maternity care. This could return us to a time when insurers only covered short-term, minimal treatment for mental health or substance use disorders, if they covered it at all. Before the ACA, almost half of plans in the individual market excluded addiction treatment.

Figure 3

Number of unintentional overdose involving selected drugs by year, Ohio 2000-2015

Figure 2

Growth of Ohio private healthcare jobs 2000-2015



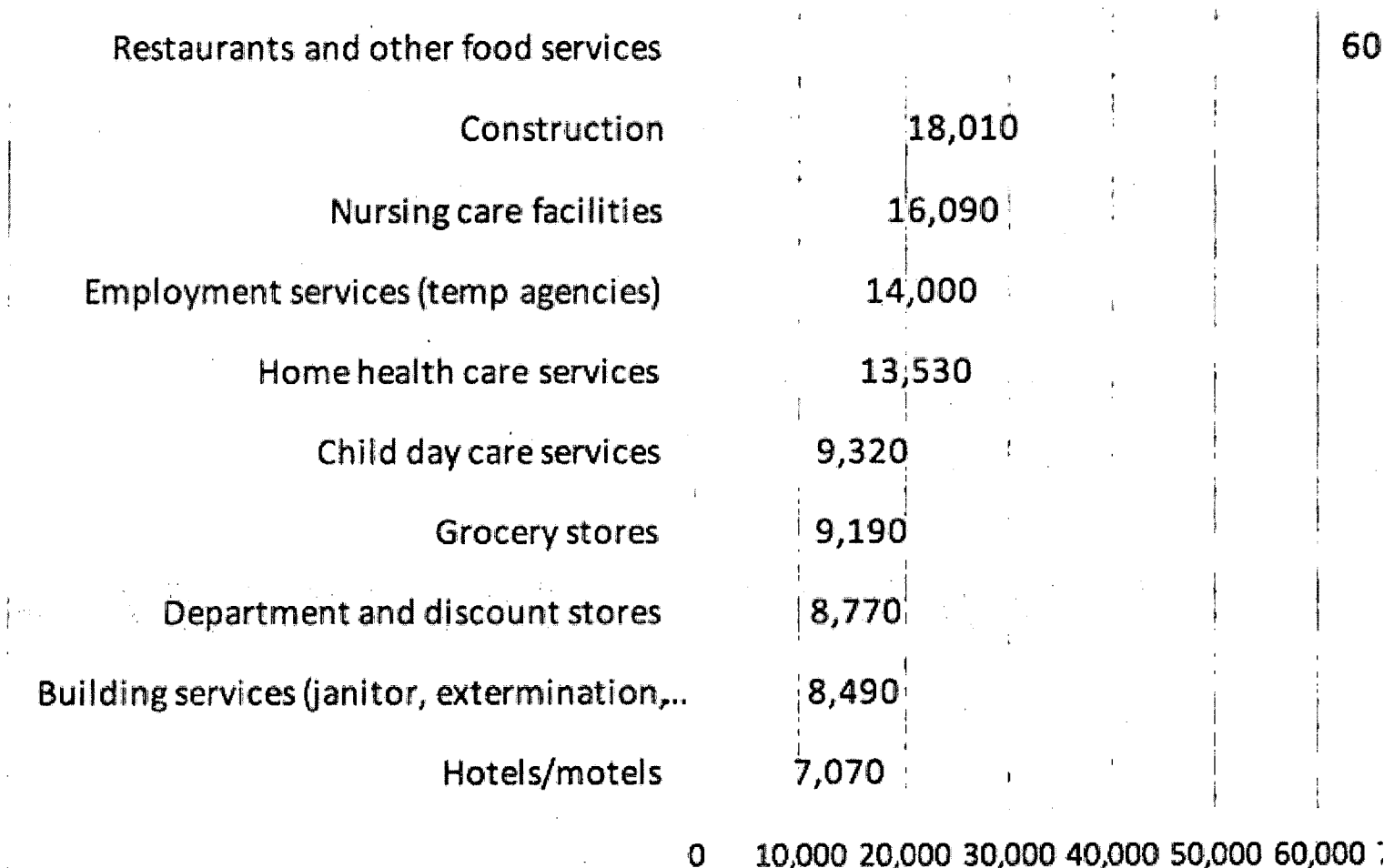
Source: Policy Matters Ohio analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics quarterly census of Employment and Wages and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data on annual private employment from 2008-2018

Changes put massive and dangerous new costs onto Ohio

Under the GCIJ plan, Ohio takes on new risks and costs. GCIJ replaces ACA funding with block grants that disappear in 2026. This will cut Ohio’s federal funding for health coverage by \$2.6 billion by 2027. Similarly, this proposal ends federal matching funds for the Medicaid expansion in 2020 and converts the Medicaid program into a per capita cap. The per capita cap alone would reduce federal Medicaid spending by 12 percent (\$1.1 billion) by 2036. Additionally, the funding shift in 2021 will redistribute funding from Ohio to other states.

The proposed block grants and per-capita caps provide insufficient funding to Ohio to continue coverage of its insured population. The capped payments would grow more slowly than actual Medicaid expenditures, leaving Ohio without sufficient funding to meet its current obligations. The block grant is inadequate overall, the formula favors non-expansion states, and it ends entirely in 2026,

Ten sectors with the most workers using Medicaid expansion for health coverage



Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of 2015 American Community Survey. Adults are age 19-64. Workers have worked within the past year. The ten industries with the largest number of Medicaid-enrolled workers in the Medicaid expansion income range in Ohio. All figures rounded to the nearest ten workers.

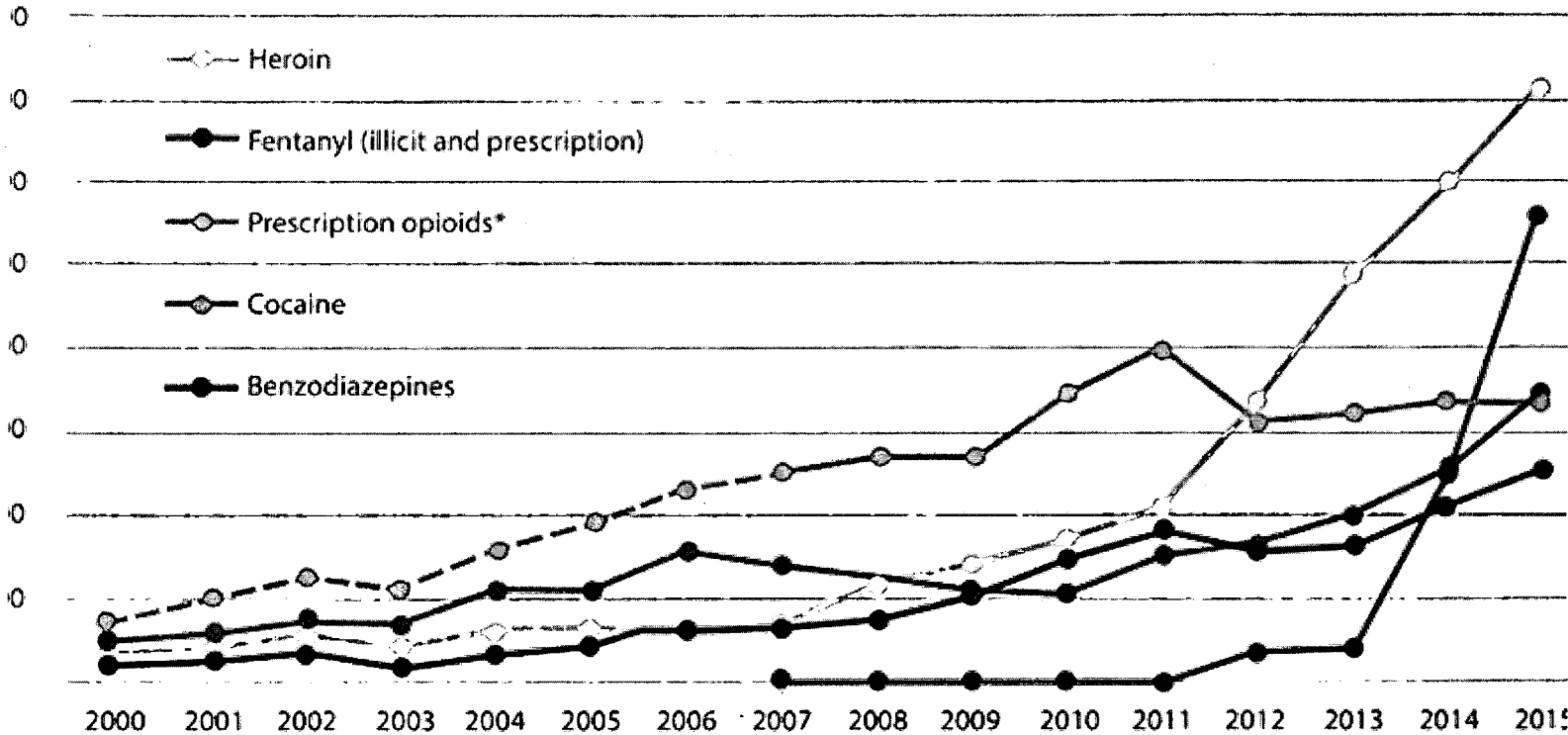
Children also benefitted from the ACA and more than 1 million of Ohio's children get health care through Medicaid. The expansion of CHIP and Medicaid under the ACA has driven Ohio's uninsured rate among children down to 4 percent; in 2015, 1.2 million Ohio children were enrolled in CHIP/Medicaid and 29,000 were enrolled in marketplace coverage.

This is not unique to Ohio: Children in states with Medicaid expansion gained insurance at the highest rates, according to recent study by Dr. Hudson and Moriya (2018). If every state had expanded Medicaid, 200,000 more kids would likely have gained coverage from 2013-2015. Making sure our children are healthy and well-cared for requires maintaining the gains made in health insurance enrollment for families and adults. Children cannot possibly be protected if cuts of this type and magnitude are enacted.

Will harm Ohio's economy

The ACA and Medicaid expansion have bolstered Ohio's economy. Funding from improved health care contributes to the local economy, circulating more money in the community. In 2015, thirty percent of Ohio's fastest growing industries were in the health care sector. Between 2000 and 2015, the percentage of Ohio jobs in the private health care sector increased from 11.1 percent to 14.9 percent^[2]. More than one out of seven Ohioans works in the private health care sector.

The health care industry has been pivotal for Ohio's job creation and growth. Funding cuts in the GCHJ bill will ripple throughout the state economy, affecting hospitals, other health care providers, laboratory services, doctor's offices, and even the local restaurants where health care workers get lunch. This plan doubles that risk by increasing the number of uninsured hospital visits, putting new costs onto hospitals and care providers. In 2015, researchers with the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University found that each uninsured person costs U.S. hospitals \$900 a year. Hospitals on average need to cover about two-thirds of these costs. With such drastic cuts in funding and insurance coverage, Ohio's hospitals stand to lose billions.



2: Ohio department of health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Analysis Conducted by ODH Injury Prevention Program. Prescription opioids not including fentanyl; fentanyl was not captured prior to 2007 as denoted by the dashed line.

Conclusion

Unlike past bills, where no alternative was on the table, today we have two viable, promising, and bi-partisan solutions to consider: Kasich-Hickenlooper and Alexander-Murray. These plans offer a promising, realistic option for stabilizing health insurance markets and improving an already effective system, rather than replacing it with a cruel, rushed bill that will hurt a majority of American states and leave millions without access to affordable coverage.

Health care is needed to create a sustainable, healthy and thriving America. We cannot support a bill that allows hard working Americans and their children to live without access to equitable, affordable health insurance. Passing Cassidy-Graham would roll back the achievements of past five years, and leave states scrambling to insure their children, aged, and hard-working families that deserve the opportunity to access health care.

^[1] Department of Health and Human services, compilation of State Data on the Affordable Care Act 2016 (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/compilation-state-data-affordable-care-act>)

^[2] Policy Matters Ohio analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data on annual private employment from 2008-2015. Employment Codes included are 620 (Ambulatory Care), 622 (Hospitals) and 623 (Nursing and Residential Care). Note: BLS confidentiality standards sometimes preclude reporting QCEW data where a single firm dominates an area or industry. Only 19 counties reported hospital employment figures. This means that total state employment calculated by adding together the individual county totals is different than the statewide employment figure. The gap between the total health care employment calculated from the counties and the total generated from the statewide data is about 54,000 jobs, or about 8 percent of the statewide sector total. Data for Vinton County was unavailable from the ODJFS QCEW retrieval tool. The Vinton County 2012-2015 numbers were pulled from the Department of Labor. This data reflects only private employment in the health care sector, though public entities play a large role in health care. These job numbers, therefore, are quite conservative. Much data on jobs in public entities like ambulatory centers, hospitals, nursing facilities and in public health administration is not reported due to confidentiality standards, which is why this report focuses on the private sector.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Weland [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Oppose Graham Cassidy Heller bill (TrumpCare 5.0)

It's Monday and you're going to hold a sham of a hearing on the Graham Cassidy bill soon.

I am writing again in light of the developments over the weekend to buy off Senators who have expressed major reservations about this poorly conceived and devastating bill—as they should because it will not only hurt their own constituents but millions of others across the country. This is simply unacceptable.

You have to know how wrong it is to slap together a bill that alters 1/6 of our economy and touches nearly every single American without regular order, without seeking expert input, without hearings, without a comprehensive CBO score. The experts who have seen this bill have all expressed their deep concerns and objections to it. EVERY Medicaid director. Doctors and nurses. Major medical associations. Insurance industry groups.

You also have to know, deep down, that you will hurt millions of people if this passes. But you would do it anyway, for political reasons. For donors. To get tax cuts for people who are already wealthy. That is incredibly cynical and pathetic.

If that is your mindset, you have no business being in public office and you should retire now. I can promise you that if you vote for this bill, there are millions of Americans who will do everything they can to see you voted out of office.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Weland [REDACTED]
Date: September 21, 2017 at 3:18:25 PM PDT
To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov
Subject: **Oppose Graham Cassidy Heller bill (TrumpCare 5.0)**

TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Please slow down this hearing and return to the regular order of business in the Senate.

One hearing prior to a vote does not allow for two weeks of comments on the bill. There is no CBO score on this drastic measure.

One sixth of the American economy will be affected -- not to mention the lives and health of millions of Americans. Without study and without a CBO score and testimony from experts, you have no real idea of what you will unleash on the healthcare system and on millions of Americans if you proceed.

We deserve a thoughtful and deliberative process as well as the best coverage available for the most people. Graham Cassidy does not achieve this goal. In fact, Graham Cassidy takes what are

already issues in the individual markets and makes them worse. It decimates Medicaid, which so many seniors, children and Americans with disabilities rely on. It takes money from states that have expanded Medicaid and are working to provide coverage and care for more of their citizens and gives that money to states that have not opted to participate...to the detriment of their residents.

It guts protections for pre-existing conditions and allows states to decide on a politicians whim whether to cover essential services, including maternity care, mental health and opioid treatment. As someone who is self-employed and with pre-existing conditions, this decision will greatly impact my life, my financial health and my physical health.

Please pause and think. GOP members have already been quoted in the media as saying the bill is seriously flawed and they don't even know what's in it or what it will do, but they would vote for it anyway blindly.

Is that serving the American people? You know it doesn't. You are hurting the American people by going down this road.

We beg you... stop.

Jennifer Weland

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: cheryl h [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We are hard working Americans with a variety of pre-existing conditions, and with children who require daily medication. Please keep our health care affordable and accessible. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

...

Sincerely, Cheryl Holm-Hansen

Plymouth, MN

[REDACTED]
gchcomments@gmail.com

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose

Please oppose this bill that will hurt my ability to use my employer sponsored insurance to cover my daughter with pre-existing conditions, and will lead to rural hospital closures.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: jedwards [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Jody Edwards
South Jordan, Utah

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: SHONDOLYN GIBSON [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: This horrible health plan.

I am an autistic cancer survivor who also suffers from chronic pain. The Graham Cassidy bill will not only have a horrible impact on people like me but millions of others. This bill will kill people it will cost money that people like me do not have.

Consider this in 2018. Disability and chronic illness will not keep people like me from voting you out.

Please stop trying to dismantle healthcare.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Please vote no on the latest "repeal and replace" bill, Graham Cassidy. People in Texas will be hit hard, and we already are the state with the most uncovered people. Kids --like my children--with disabilities will lose the coverage and therapies so crucial to them to help them grow up on a more level field with their peers. People like me with preexisting health conditions can be priced out of or even denied health coverage! In this country we should care for our fellow Americans, which means we shouldn't make them have to set up a GoFundMe page to pay their catastrophic healthcare costs--costs that can hit any of us, at any time, healthy or not.

Please, do the right thing and vote no on this heinously cruel legislation. Thank you.

Margaret Alvarado

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing - Sept 25, 2017

RE: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date: September 25, 2017

Name: Beverly Case

[REDACTED] Gurnee, IL 60031

Dear sirs,

I am very concerned about this bill as it will greatly impact my family and I. When we were in our fifties, we lost our insurance. My husband worked for OMC for 32 years and as part of his retirement, we were to be insured until we were eligible for Medicare. After a few years, OMC went bankrupt, we lost our insurance and we were not able to get any because of pre-existing conditions. My husband then had to go back to work and with his health issues and the added stress, his health deteriorated. If only AHC was available when we needed it. In the last 10 years, we took care of his parents until they passed away/went into a nursing home, paid for care until all their funds were gone and had to go on Medicaid. What if that was no longer available, would they have been put out on the street? Frightening thought! And now have my mother who is 86 living with us. Hopefully we can continue to take care of her. My husband is now retired but I am continuing to work so we can pay our real estate taxes and the medicare supplement. With anticipated cut backs for medicare and medicaid, we are fearful for our future. We have worked hard all our lives, paid into Social Security and with talk of cutting our SS benefits, we would be hard pressed to make ends meet. And then what would happen if we needed Medicaid and couldn't get it? We raised 6 children and encouraged them to further their education so I can proudly say 4 out of 6 have college (1 master's) degrees. After our experience of being turned down because of pre-existing, I pray no one else has to go through what we did. AHC may not be the best program but it has helped many and insuring our children while in school, we are investing in our country's future. Please consider taking time for all members of Congress to make every effort possible for a better healthcare system. If you pass this bill, and put this in the hands of the states, I believe nothing will get done. Illinois has not even been able to approve a budget in years so there's probably no chance of come up with a comprehensive plan for healthcare in a timely manner. Please consider all the facts and work together! Praying the right choice is made for our country and all Americans! Thank you for your time.

Beverly Case

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Wright [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please do not pass Graham-Cassidy

I own and operate a small business—too small to qualify for group coverage. My wife and I obtain our health insurance via the individual market. We both have multiple pre-existing conditions, and we fear the passing of Graham-Cassidy will result in us no longer being able to afford health insurance.

I am 51, my wife is 48. We're reaching the age where bodies begin to break down, but are not close to the qualifying age for Medicare. This is the time in our lives when we need health insurance the most. I worked hard to buy my house, put my daughter through college, and have a very small IRA—not nearly enough to retire on yet, but I'm trying. If we don't have health insurance, one bad accident or diagnosis could bankrupt us. How is that fair? No other developed country in the world works like this.

Please do not pass this bill. Fix the ACA.

Sincerely,
John Wright

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: steve bakeeff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I sit down to write about healthcare.

I have a 12 year old niece who at the age of 1 became diabetic, what will her chances of having affordable healthcare under GOP rule be?

I'm 63 and for as long as I can remember the GOP has stood for making money ! They don't care about human suffering, Never have!

This country spends on average twice the amount of money per person than any other country & still does get everyone covered !

Why should some fat cat sitting behind a desk make money on my health ?

Yes I'm all in for Medicare for all !

Medicare takes about 1.5% of healthcare dollars to run it's program.

The health insurance companies make more money when you allow them to kick people out of coverage for pre existing conditions !

The GOP has done a wonderful job of yelling Socialism from their seats of power ! But when ever their Capitalism falters they run to Socialism to pay for the mistakes of Capitalism by using tax payer dollars to bail them out !

The ACA has many faults, But it's been working even though the GOP throws as many sticks into it's spokes ! Such allowing states to bow out of Medicare coverage !

The entire healthcare industry has lined up against Graham Cassidy ! That in itself tells me the GOP is making a terrible choice for America!

Please wake up

Graham Cassidy is a huge mistake

Steve Bakeeff

[REDACTED]
Concord, NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susie Kisber [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:38 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing because I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I and my partner both live with chronic disabling conditions that require extensive medical treatments on a weekly basis. Both of us are unable to work anymore because of our disabilities. If pre-existing conditions were to increase the cost of our already unaffordable insurance coverage, we would be in danger of having to choose between paying for healthcare, food, and housing. We could not afford all three. That would put us in jeopardy of actually costing the community more because our needs would force us to rely on state or federal support.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, rather than it being repealed!

Sincerely,
Susie Kisber
Richmond, CA

--

Tikkun Olam Prayer (Tikkun Olam is a Hebrew phrase meaning "repairing the world")

May we have the strength, wisdom, and clarity of vision to use our power to work towards bringing peace and an end to oppression of all kinds.

May our rhetoric of inclusivity not be mere words. May we actively engage in dialogue and action to end discrimination and prejudice. May we work towards creating a world where no one is subject to inferior education that renders marginalized peoples & histories invisible.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lesley/Bill Rowe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:37 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care bill

I have a pre-existing condition and lived with the fear of not being able to afford health insurance BEFORE THE ACA. Please repair it. Call it Trumpcare if you have to. Whatever it takes.

I wonder how you would vote if there were TERM LIMITS?

Lesley Rowe
Faber, VA 22938

May we nurture local and global economies that foster sustainable growth and end hunger, homelessness, and inadequate health care.

May we, and our loved ones be protected from harm and find moments to nourish and cherish one another. May we offer each other understanding and support as we travel on our sacred journey of *tikkun olam*.

- This prayer was written in 2010 in the midst of the hate crimes happening on UC campuses by Susie Kisber. It was adapted from a prayer she had written as part of the "Blessings for Barack Scroll." The scroll combined prayers from 3000 diverse voices within the Jewish community and was presented to President Obama after he was inaugurated in 2009.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

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 mean-spirited bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before it. My home state (Washington) 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.

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.

The Graham-Cassidy bill seems to me to promote sickness and disability - if not death - for US citizens. It seems to me to be in opposition to this country's greater goals (freedom from want, freedom from hunger, freedom from inequality, freedom to pursue happiness, and the like), and to contravene the oath I took upon becoming a medical doctor.

Rather than heartlessly stripping health care - and the hope of preserving or regaining meaningful function through effective health interventions - from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets, fixing the ACA, and giving US citizens a reasonable chance to live lives unimpeded by disability and suffering. This is especially important in the aftermath of the fires, floods, and hurricanes that have recently upended lives, destroyed jobs, and caused illness, injuries, and displacement throughout the Southeast and Northwest. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Paula E. Brentlinger, MD, MPH

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sean Boyle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on GCH! Work bipartisan to fix ACA, not replace.

Everything about how the Republicans have tried to legislate healthcare under Donald Trump's Congress has been dishonest. Listen to Senator McCain when he says work in a bipartisan fashion. I have worked in healthcare on the industry side for my entire 25 year career. I know more than most people about how healthcare works in our country and in many other countries. You cannot balance the budget on the backs of poor people and expected to be a good thing for the country. The way legislative dissent was handled by your Republican led Congress was insulting, divisive and to the detriment of any honest and fair legislation. Start over and do better.

Sincerely,
Sean Boyle

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Todd [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Thomas Todd
Issaquah, WA

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawna Kemper [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:36 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller
Importance: High

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I'm writing to strongly urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller, and instead support the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering.

Despite empty promises, Graham-Cassidy-Heller would actually result in approximately 32 million Americans losing vital health care coverage. It also would be catastrophic for those with pre-existing conditions, would gut Medicaid, and would be devastating for those with disabilities. The bill - even in its last-ditch revised form - is unconscionable and cruel. I implore you to do the right thing and oppose it, and invest your time and energies into crafting a bipartisan bill that would actually help Americans, especially the most vulnerable among us. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Dawna Kemper
West Hills, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justine King [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

Please reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller and support the bipartisan bill from the HELP Committee. Under GCH, millions will lose coverage and Medicaid will get decimated, harming seniors and the disabled. Those with preexisting conditions will be adversely affected. Thank you.

Justine King
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Murray Loew [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I urge the Senate to defeat this bill.
The havoc it would wreak on the health of our citizenry is great -- leaving many uninsured, and potentially eliminating coverage for pre-existing conditions.

Vote no!

Sincerely,

Murray Loew

[REDACTED]
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-1927

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: marci bloom-vettese <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very concerned with the latest proposal to "repeal and replace" the ACA. While I understand that something needs to be done to improve the current system, especially regarding the rising costs, I don't believe this Bill is the answer. I am concerned especially for the following reasons:

1. This does not guarantee coverage for those of us with pre-existing conditions. The vague language leaves it up to the states to do away with such protections - leaving the most needy (at all income levels) with the possibility of being unable to obtain proper coverage (especially since it might become too expensive to pay for coverage). Granted, states might not initially opt out of the pre-existing conditions clause, but as costs continue to increase (and insurance company profits decline), more states might choose to seek this option.
2. This Bill does not properly address the increasing costs of healthcare, co-pays/deductibles, and prescription drugs.
3. The Bill was created as a last minute attempt to "repeal and replace" (so Republicans are able to "fulfill" their promise) without giving any true thought to how it will actually affect the health of our citizens and long-term budget implications. This is a major piece of legislation, and should be done with proper care, including:
 - as a bi-partisan effort;
 - include hearings, with input from different parties (states, medical experts, corporations/insurance companies/drug companies, citizens, etc.);
 - the potential costs, etc. should also be provided prior to voting (via CBO);
 - there should not be any "pork barrel" additions/side deals to convince individuals to support;
 - any government money being distributed to states should not be based on political preferences/rewards;
 - special "amendments" (such as restricting how a state would like to set-up healthcare in their state) should not be permitted;
 - be as specific as possible without the usual "vague language".
4. More of an attempt needs to be made to educate the public (and possibly Congress) how "insurance" for health care (at least currently in this country) needs to be viewed in a similar manner as car/home insurance (all contribute to the pot, to defray the costs of those who ultimately will need to receive payments/treatment).
5. I have additional concerns regarding this Bill, including, but not limited to: the effect it will have on Medicare; and how impractical it is to assume each state will be able to resolve this problem within two years, when Congress hasn't been able to do it properly, and without negative effects on their citizens - even during the transition process.

Sincerely,

Marci Bloom-Vettese

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Ervin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:33 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Susan Ervin
Orting, Washington

Sent by Suzi

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Hathcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO for Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are both self-employed and two of the four members of our family have pre-existing conditions that would make it very difficult, if not impossible, for us to purchase private health insurance. I would very much like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Katie Hathcock

Jackson, MS (zip 39211)

Katie Hathcock
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: meg staires [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA, don't repeal

My Family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have an adopted son who did not get the greatest start to life during pregnancy, with repeated drug and alcohol exposures. Because of the ACA, he has access to the care he needs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Meg Staires

Fayetteville, AR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Gulya [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony opposing Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Having ongoing access to affordable mental health services like talk therapy and affordable future services for maternity care when I have children after earning my PhD is only possible through a government regulated health insurance system that makes these services accessible to all. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gulya
Minneapolis, Minnesota

--
Best,
Lisa Gulya
Doctoral Candidate, Sociology
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret Curtis [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My comments

To Whom It May Concern,

The Graham Cassidy bill is a total fiscal disaster. You should not even be considering a vote on a bill that has not been subjected to careful CBO vetting and public debate. Healthcare is one-sixth of our economy and affects literally every American.

I am a primary care physician in small-town Maine. Because my state did not expand Medicaid I still see a significant number of patients who are uninsured or have insanely high deductibles. These are not people on welfare: they are lobsterman, small business owners, waitresses. Their health suffers because they have to ration their own healthcare.

Under the ACA, personal bankruptcies have gone down and the overall burden of healthcare to our society has gone down. Under Graham Cassidy, individuals and businesses will once again drown in health care debt.

If you want to reform the ACA, get to work with serious analysis and public process. This bill is a disgrace.

Margaret Curtis, MD
Brunswick, ME

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Doley Carlson [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy

My family and, in fact, all families rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. One pre-existing condition or serious illness can bankrupt a family no matter how responsible they've been or hard they've worked to save. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Chris Carlson

Los Angeles, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: dgs1261 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Insurers Oppose Graham-Cassidy and So Do I

I would like to submit a public comment in OPPOSITION to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

The Senate would do well to consider that the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, America's Health Insurance Plans, and Kaiser Permanente—all representing major health insurance companies—oppose this bill. The AMA and hospital associations oppose this bill. Governors from dozens of states oppose this bill. There is no full CBO score to determine its effects on health care.

How can we pass a bill that is so poorly understood and so negatively evaluated by health professionals with one brief "hearing"? This is truly a life-and-death matter. American citizens will die needlessly. Do you want these deaths on your conscience?

Please return to the bipartisan effort led by Senator Alexander and Senator Murray and regular order in the Senate.

Donna Storey
Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TC [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate -

I am a physician, a pediatric subspecialist who works with all kids with pre-existing conditions. The Graham-Cassidy "health" plan will hurt our most vulnerable, especially the children and their families, who come to me for treatment. It will take care away from millions including children, the poor, the elderly and women.

We need a single payer system. We need to join EVERY OTHER DEVELOPED NATION ON EARTH and provide basic health care.

Tina Cheng, DO, FAAP

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

These rushed attempts to slip healthcare bills through Congress have got to stop!

People's lives-- American lives are at stake.

This isn't about politics, or allegiance to party and the president.

The American people deserve a well thought out plan, that is carefully considered, written, debated and fairly voted upon.

The Graham Cassidy Act is just another spiteful attempt to repeal and replace.

An Act written by politicians who know this bill won't affect their lives, or the lives of their loved ones. Politicians who think nothing of spending hundreds of thousands/millions of dollars flying on private planes and tending to their own delicate creature comforts while slashing budgets for our most vulnerable citizens who can't afford basic food, shelter and medical care.

I implore anyone who has a say in this to vote "no." America is watching. The people who vote are watching.

Melanie Mandery, Northport, New York

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Alexander [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

Senate Finance Committee
Graham/Cassidy Act
September 25, 2017 Meeting

Susan Alexander
[REDACTED]
Arlington, Vermont 05250

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy bill. I have Lupus and I have to see several doctors to keep me from lapsing back into horrible flares of this deadly disease. It almost killed me once and I do all that I can to keep it at bay.

But, this necessitates seeing doctors, having tests and procedures to combat the various symptoms that keep increasing in number and severity.

This disease has made me a pauper because I can no longer work to support myself. I rely on Social Security to survive. That small monthly check will not cover the medical bills that I would incur without health insurance. Medicare helps, but I need my supplemental Medicare coverage.

If this bill becomes law, my supplemental insurance rates will soar and I will no longer be able to pay for my plan or any plan.

Without that insurance coverage, I will not be able to see my doctors, let alone get the blood work and other tests to monitor my illness. I will have no way to seek treatment to try to keep me alive.

Please, do not pass this bill.

I do not want to die because I am sick and poor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Alexander

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elisa Ignatius [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Replace the ACA

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My boyfriend relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of Medicaid, he was able to receive quality medical care that saved his life last year when he had a stroke. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Elisa Ignatius
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: beth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA!

This Graham-Cassidy bill stinks. It will mean bad news for millions of Americans. What we need instead is to improve the ACA.

Thank you,
Beth Bauman
New York, NY
Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Grace Jacobs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Healthcare is essential

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our daughter was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes as a child. Every hour of every day someone is diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. She wears an insulin pump and a continuous glucose monitor and relies on insulin every moment of every day to stay alive. This is a relentless autoimmune disease impacting many Americans. Medical costs for type 1 diabetes are estimated at nearly \$10,000 a year, compared with \$3,580 a year for those without the disease. For type 1 patients requiring at least one hospitalization, the average yearly cost skyrockets to almost \$26,000. This is tremendous financial burden. If the ACA is repealed without a reasonable and affordable replacement- Americans with type 1 diabetes may not be able to afford the high costs and even lose the protection of insurability. They could be subject to lifetime caps, which can force families into medical bankruptcies or untenable financial healthcare decisions. They could lose the equity of premium rates when being insured (if they are even deemed insurable at all) and insurers can refuse to pay for their diabetes care if there is a lapse in continuous coverage. Our daughter must have affordable health insurance, because without health insurance she could have out of pocket costs that could literally bury her and this would create a gap in coverage that could prevent her from even ever getting insurance coverage again. This would threaten her life. This is unacceptable. This is not the way of America. We don't leave people out in the cold. I need you to remember her and all others with pre existing conditions. Please vote No on the Graham- Cassidy bill. We cannot lose the protections in the ACA. My daughter's life and so many others are depending on it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Grace Jacobs
Shapleigh, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

To the Finance Committee:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I went without insurance for two years because I could not afford it because of a pre-existing condition requiring daily medication. I paid thousands of dollars out of pocket for my medication at a time where I was making less than \$20,000 a year. I currently rely on it for birth control and regular well-woman appointments, one of which alerted me to a thyroid mass that required a biopsy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lesley Tsina
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Randall, Janet [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:12 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 is that my niece, Samantha Cassidy, who is 23 years old and is a college student in California, has cystic fibrosis. Her healthcare is extremely expensive, in fact it would also exceed the lifetime limits that have been proposed. Without affordable care, she will not have the care she needs and she will die. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Janet Randall

Cambridge Massachusetts 02138

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mark Buschbacher <markbuschbacher@serenityhouse.org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Impact

September 25, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Finance
Rm. SD-219
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 205110

Submitted by:
Mark Buschbacher
Serenity House Counseling Services
891 S. Rohlwing Rd.
Addison, IL 60101

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of (Serenity House Counseling Services), I submit this testimony to the Senate Finance committee, in regards to the Graham/Cassidy/Heller/Johnson Amendment to the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2017.

It is known to every policymaker and every public health official that the opioid epidemic has had a devastating impact on all Americans, and Illinois is no exception. The Affordable Care Act, and the Medicaid expansion that accompanied it, has been a boon to substance abuse treatment to the people of Illinois. Not only would this bill put Medicaid expansion in Illinois at risk, but the reforms proposed to the Medicaid system would be outright disastrous to the substance abuse and mental health treatment communities. A vote in favor of this bill is a vote to stem SUD services, as vast multitudes of your constituents will lose vital coverage, leaving them susceptible to addiction and overdoses. It is also a vote to terminate life-long mental health care for citizens of less means, denying them an opportunity to be productive members of society that can contribute to our collective growth and well-being.

Health care economists Richard G. Frank and Sherry A. Glied estimate that 1.3 million people with serious mental illness and 2.8 million people with SUDs — including 220,000 people with opioid disorders — could lose health coverage under ACA repeal. Both chambers of Congress have spent the past several years expressing its concern for these populations, and support of this bill would be nothing short of a slap in the face to these vulnerable populations, at both a fiscal and emotional level.

As a result of zeroing out block grants for Marketplace tax credits and Medicaid expansion and additional cuts to Medicaid, the Graham-Cassidy bill is essentially repealing the Affordable Care Act without replacing it, and at least **965,000 Illinoisans would lose coverage by 2027**. The Graham-Cassidy bill would turn traditional Medicaid into a per capita cap, meaning the 2,201,841 Illinoisans who are enrolled on Medicaid would have their care jeopardized. Medicaid disproportionately helps children, seniors in nursing home care and people with disabilities. A study by Avalere found that Graham-Cassidy would cut funding for people with disabilities by 15-percent and 31-percent for children by 2036. Finally, allowing states to opt out of the Essential Health Benefits coverage means that insurance companies could once again put lifetime and annual limits on the amount of care one receives, even impacting people with coverage from their employer. Up to 1,195,000 Illinoisans with employer-sponsored coverage would lose these protections- and as you may be aware, addiction is a chronic disease, requiring a lifetime of care.

We hope your colleagues in Congress are aware that a vote in favor of this bill is a vote to decimate the progress we have made in fighting substance use disorders, as well as mental illness, over the past several years. However, we must not let our progress be stunted, especially as we stand upon the precipice of true advances for our most vulnerable populations. Medicaid plays a vital role in providing behavioral health services across Illinois. Although the CARA act, as well as the 21st Century Cures Act and its mental health provisions, were a great boost to our mission, they pale in comparison to the contributions made by Medicaid. Illinois simply cannot afford for this bill to be passed, at a fiscal or a moral level.

The opioid epidemic, unfortunately, is just a scratch on the surface. When we take into account the costs of all substance abuse, including alcoholism, we see how dire the need for quality care really is. We are well aware of the political stakes involved in this vote, but the stakes in real life are even higher. Lives hang in the balance. Substance abuse treatment saves lives, and a vote in favor of this bill is a vote to curtail these services. We urge you to vote against this bill, so that you may consider yourself a true champion of our cause.

Sincerely,

Mark Buschbacher
Executive Director
Serenity House Counseling Services, Inc.

[REDACTED]
Addison, Illinois 60101

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], EXT. 104

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diann Parsons [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:47 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on Graham-Cassidy bill

I have to say, of all the repeal proposals and votes, I am MOST concerned about this one as the bill itself will totally dismantle health care as we know it. How can you leave our children, seniors, disabled and veterans without health coverage? Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

*Diann Parsons
Plymouth, IN*

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: *This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited.*

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Goldberg [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 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. Emily Goldberg
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Floral Park, NY 11005
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Sewick [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

It is imperative for the good of the American People that this bill is defeated. In spite of what has been said, it is obvious that there is no protection for pre-existing conditions and millions of Americans will lose their coverage after it is passed.

Many, many health organizations have come out against this bill. Blue Cross, Blue Shield has come out against this bill. If an insurance company is opposed to it, there must be something drastically wrong with it. Please vote no on this bill.

Best regards,
Karen Sewick
Downers Grove, IL 60515

History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people.

Martin Luther King

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Matheus [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy

I am writing to object in the strongest way possible to the proposed Graham Cassidy bill. Clearly, the AC is not perfect, but it has resulted in millions more American becoming insured over its lifetime. I am one of those Americans.

I run a small nonprofit that serves a rural community. I see what a difference affordable health coverage means to my clients. They are able to spend their energy and worry on other important challenges so they have a chance to get out of poverty.

Can you guarantee the American people that we will be better off if Graham Cassidy passes? Can you guarantee that those of us with pre-existing conditions will continue to receive life-saving care?

If you cannot honestly guarantee this, do not move forward with this bill. We have a right to be heard. This bill has been opposed by most major medical and disease/condition advocate organizations and many state governors. Please, please do not pass Graham Cassidy.

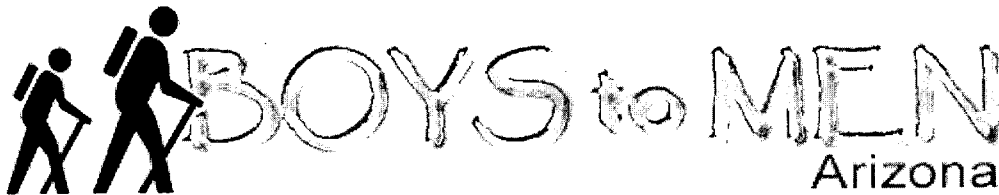
Sincerely,

Charles Matheus

Charles Matheus
Executive Director
Boys to Men Mentoring Network, North Central AZ

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Get a dollar for dollar AZ Tax credit by donating today.
include Boys to Men in your estate planning, will or beneficiary designation.



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peg Tayler-MacNeill [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:44 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. Peg Tayler-MacNeill
[REDACTED]
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eric Booth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: no on Graham-Cassidy Health Travesty Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am the old man of my immediate family, and have aged into Medicare, which is not going to be impinged (I hope) by the Graham-Cassidy bill you going through the public motions of considering. In my immediately family of seven, six will be impacted adversely by the Graham-Cassidy bill. Four have "pre-existing conditions" with two having endured cancer journeys that were made affordable by the Affordable Care Act, and three have health care because of government subsidies. Please, please do not bring this hideous bill up for a vote, and if you do, please please do not pass it--Murkowski, Snow, Paul and McCain please help our population's health worries by voting it down. It isn't even a health bill, it is a finance bill with the burdens of financial changes being bourne by worsened health outcomes of millions.

Sincerely,
Eric B Miller

Eric B Miller

[REDACTED]
High Falls, NY 12440

[REDACTED] (home)

[REDACTED] (work)

[REDACTED]@net

[REDACTED] [playingforthem.com](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Wahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please don't pass this bill!

My family and I, like all Americans, need to be able to depend on quality, affordable healthcare. One of my children has no healthcare through his nearly full time job, my grandchildren are not covered by their parents' employers because the expense is not affordable. I personally have a pre-existing condition that could prevent me from receiving health insurance if providers are not compelled to provide it. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please, instead of repealing the ACA, tweak it, improve it. There are several workable fixes to make it continue to increase the number of people who have health insurance in the United States.

Sincerely,

Carol Wahl
Roseville, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Board [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My public comment: "No" on Graham-Cassidy

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden,

I write you today to voice my extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill currently in the Senate. The list is long as to how it would do immense harm to millions of Americans by taking away a basic, human right we all share: medical care. I have story after story I could share of friends and family members who were blindsided by a sudden, catastrophic change in their health. Health insurance kept them and their families moving forward and did not destroy them, even as some did not win their battle. As human beings, we cannot abandon fellow humans when these things happen. With many competing philosophies among committee members and Americans as a whole, I believe we can all agree that first, do no harm.

However, if it is more appropriate to address you from a financial standpoint, Why would we willingly and knowingly throw 1/6 of our economy into chaos? What will happen to our economy if people who in the past have become ill, but are able to work and contribute to the economy, can no longer do so?

It seems simple to me: a cruel and hurtful bill that looks from all angles to be a bad business decision would get an "F" in every Business 101 class in the country. It should not make gains the Senate. We are counting on your leadership to do the right thing for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Sue Adams

Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather May <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill in the strongest possible terms. I have been fortunate to be employed with health insurance for nearly the entirety of my adult life, and even so there have been times when I have found myself unable to afford treatment or when my family and I have had to make difficult decisions about how to spend our money. Do we buy my husband's asthma medication, which costs over a hundred dollars a month even with insurance, or make improvements to our old home? As someone recently diagnosed with a devastating pre-existing genetic condition that will make my employment increasingly challenging, the thought of losing my health insurance keeps me up at night. While I am able to function independently at present, without robust health insurance my retirement years look incredibly bleak.

I recently spent a week counseling a former student who needed a costly medical procedure that her insurance refused to cover, leaving her housebound and unable to function for weeks on end. This is a young person who just earned their college degree in political science and has enormous potential to help shape the US in positive ways, and yet they had to turn down job offers because they couldn't get the medical care they needed to be a reliable employee. It broke their heart as it is breaking mine. (The issue finally got so bad that they required surgery, which was covered under their insurance.)

I cannot state strongly enough how horrible the Graham-Cassidy bill would be for hardworking Americans. Work for a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Heather May
Geneva, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Brennan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the record, RE Graham-Cassidy Bill

You'll find this health plan was the platform of Jack Merridew as he tried to gain cruel power in *Lord of the Flies*. Specifically, his health care platform was repeatedly addressed in debates with Piggy, in which he said, "Sucks to your ass-mar!"

Now, I don't know if Graham or Cassidy know Jack. They certainly have told America, "Sucks to your ass-mar!" and will be responsible for the deaths of many children in their quest for power.

History will record the names of any cold-hearted, small-minded hate machine who votes for this attack against American children. They will be recorded in infamy and shame.

Sincerely,
(and to the dotards I speak of, I do mean sincerely)
John Brennan
Newport, RI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: cindy grundy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy NO

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

I have a family member with Parkinson's and leukemia. I have other family members with other pre-existing conditions, heart disease, and brain tumor.

I feel passionately that there should be a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Laurance Monterey, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save lives: do not repeal of the ACA

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Alisha Sarang-Sieminski. I am a resident of Boston, Massachusetts and a citizen of the United States. I am a parent and an active member of a diverse community of people.

I am writing to implore you not to repeal the ACA. All of the other "alternatives," including the Graham – Cassidy Bill, will demonstrably, and quantitatively reduce the quality of life for many Americans. In fact, it is clear that they will result in the actual death of a great number of people and the reduction in quality of life for many.

Thank you,
Alisha
[REDACTED]
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Jane Shoemaker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Care Act

I am a grandmother raising 5 grandchildren. We depend on affordable health care. Please work together to improve healthcare for my family and all Americans. Rising insurance costs are taking half my retirement now. This bill would shipwreck us.

Sincerely,
Mary Shoemaker
El Rito New Mexico

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joe Haus <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:03 AM
To: gchcomments

I oppose the Graham- Cassidy bill and the way it is being rushed to a vote without a proper review by the budget office.

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

Listen to Sen.McCain

Sincerely, Joseph A. Haus

St. Paul, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bob's Email [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: STOP Graham-Cassidy!!!

Please – do NOT allow passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill!!

The vast majority of adults and families living in the U.S. want ACA to continue. Your goal should be fixing its' shortcomings rather than repeal. People want and need affordable health insurance, prescriptions and coverage even if they have pre-existing conditions. The best way is a national health insurance which is the same nationwide, not designed state-by-state. Be sure to include in the improved ACA an efficient plan to ensure healthy people are enrolled and paying premiums.

Do the right thing for your fellow citizens – many of whom vote and will remember what you've done at your next election – keep ACA!

Thank you, Robert L. Cox
Arizona voter

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kaia Rose [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 AM
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 father has Parkinson's and would not be able to afford the care he needs without Medicaid and Medicare. And for the first time in my life, I am able to afford health insurance under the ACA. Please don't take this away from us.

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

Sincerely,
Kaia

Kaia Rose
New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Thomas Dykes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:30 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
....

Thomas Dykes

19015
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vijay Kajla [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Opposing Graham-Cassidy

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 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.

Vijay K Kajla, MD

[REDACTED]
Worcester MA 01606

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennie Kress [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition Testimony: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a graduate student pursuing my dream of working to solve educational inequities in my native city of Los Angeles. The insurance offered under my graduate program does not allow me to see the specialist I need for my thyroid issues. Through the ACA, I am able to gain access to medication I need at an affordable price and see the specialist that helps me keep my condition under control.

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

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kress
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kevin Fech [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Johnson-Heller Bill
Attachments: M57802E3042GP (1).jpg

Good afternoon

I would like to tell you the story of my son Tyler. Tyler is a young adult that will be finishing school next spring with his high school diploma. Tyler is currently working a part time job with the hopes of starting his own business next fall, if not sooner. Tyler is a son, a brother, a grandson, a cousin and a friend to many people across the country. Tyler is also an athlete, alter server, volunteer, voter and soon to be tax payer.

I tell you this because I am very proud of the young man that Tyler has become. I also tell you this because Tyler has Down syndrome, autism and is non-verbal and Medicaid will be his sole insurance if the Graham-Cassidy health care bill is passed.

Currently, because of the 10 essential health care benefits, Tyler uses Medicaid has his secondary insurance. BY eliminating the benefit, Medicaid will be picking up 100% of his medical costs for 5 additional years, as Tyler is currently 20 years old and if the benefit is eliminated, he will no longer have a "primary" insurance, he will only have Medicaid. This benefit is saving money in the Medicaid program.

Tyler requires supports throughout his day. Everything from brushing his teeth, to showering, transportation, mixing his vitamins and supplements as well as make his meals. Currently, Tyler has the support of his family to do these tasks, but that will not last forever. Additionally, a number of Tyler's friends have no supports around them to perform these daily tasks. These individuals rely on Medicaid long term care waiver programs to meet these daily tasks, I will add imperative as well as the humane thing to do. Individuals with disabilities have the right to live their lives with human decency and have all of the same rights as everyone else. They need assistance and the Christian thing to do is to provide this assistance to them. We never hesitate to offer financial assistance to corporations, why do we question offering assistance to our most vulnerable population?

The long term care programs I mentioned above offer a quality of life for individuals with disabilities. I recently heard a statistic that the average cost of a one month stay in a Wisconsin nursing home is approximately \$5000 per month for people receiving Medicaid. The long term care programs, which allow individuals to continue living in the community, cost approximately \$3200 per month. That is a savings of \$21,600 per person. Wisconsin has approximately 50,000 people receiving long term care services, this equates to an overall savings of over \$1 trillion dollars.

Along with the care that individuals with disabilities receive through these Medicaid long term waiver programs, there are jobs associated with the supports and services that individuals receive. Using the 50,000 number for Wisconsin, let's say that each individual has even just 2 workers providing cares that range from cleaning up incontinence issues, to ensuring individuals are turned to avoid bed ulcers (sores) to driving individuals to medical appointments to receive preventative care (which also reduces the need to Medicaid dollars to be spent on more costly hospitalizations). On top of these direct care workers, there are thousands of other that provide supports in a number of indirect ways. Conservatively, it could be estimated that in Wisconsin alone close to 1 million individuals are employed because of Medicaid programs.

If the federal government would reduce any portion of the funding to Medicaid, it would have a disproportionate negative impact on individuals with disabilities. States do not have the capacity to continue these programs to the same extent that allows for a quality of life. I am only focused on individuals with disabilities, I am not including children and our elderly population. We cannot call ourselves a Christian nation if we are going to turn our backs on its citizens.

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

Kevin Fech

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cudahy, WI 53110

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jaimeethibodeau [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Good Afternoon,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a young professional with expensive student loans and other expenses, on top of trying to establish myself, it is hard to be hit with both expected, regular care and the unexpected costs of medical care that pile up. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Jaimee Lambert
Westbrook, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hill Carol [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my husband and I have pre-existing conditions—breast cancer for me, a stroke for my husband. I have two sisters, two daughters, and a grandson who also have pre-existing conditions. My brother who is mentally disabled lives in a group home.

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

Sincerely,

Carol Hill
Bloomington, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tara Sayre [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No repeal to ACA

Dear sirs and madams,

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I and several members of my family have pre-existing conditions that could be in jeopardy if ACA were repealed. I would like to see a *bipartisan* Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Tara Sayre

Highland Park IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kellen Gold [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To whom it may concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Without the Affordable Care Act and expanded Medicaid, I would not be able to access my antidepressants. If I did not have access to them, I would not be able to go to college, volunteer for my community, or be there for friends and family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kellen Gold

New York City, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trudy Gonzales [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Trudy Gonzales
[redacted]
Roseville, Ca. 95678
[redacted]

In response to Republican talking points regarding repeal and replace of ACA I have the following points and counterpoints to make.

As a justification as to why Graham-Cassidy is a viable option to replace ACA. The Republicans speak of lower premiums, increased choices, states having control of Medicaid funds vs federal control, and improved care as to why Graham-Cassidy is a better plan.

These justifications have several flaws.

Regarding premiums. To buffer insurers from high losses in the initial years, keep premiums affordable, encourage insurers to participate in the exchanges, and minimize year-to-year premium fluctuations, the ACA authorized three premium stabilization programs: risk adjustment, reinsurance, and risk corridors. Our idea is to fix these to meet our needs to be effective now. The employer mandate is so the cost of healthcare for large employers does not fall on the taxpayers. The individual mandate helps stabilize the market. The subsidies currently in the ACA provide help to pay for healthcare. The Republicans have refused to make any improvements on the ACA since it became law. Any uncertainty in the insurance markets can be laid at the Republicans feet. The ACA is the law of the land, Republicans are now responsible for it.

Regarding increased choice. Freedom of choice comes at a price. If you are on a fixed income choice is limited. If you work 3 jobs and can't afford insurance that is not freedom, its poverty. Until wages are addressed, whereas people earn a living wage, do not even think gutting Medicaid helps anyone. The proposed cuts take Medicaid back to pre ACA days. Medicaid is used primarily for kids, elderly, veterans, and the disabled. Women are given substandard, more expensive, or No choice under Graham-Cassidy at all.

Regarding improved care. Statistics are out, care has improved under ACA. Essential benefits ensure a standard of care Americans deserve. The pre existing clause in ACA is good. No need to fix it. Bankruptcies are down 50% since ACA removed lifetime CAPS and put in yearly out of pocket spending limits. Not one major health organization has supported Graham-Cassidy. Rural hospitals, in our district like John C. Fremont Healthcare, will be devastated and may have to close. Your bill does not address rural health adequately.

Regarding states controlling Medicaid funds. The fact that 19 states have not expanded Medicaid is reason enough for worry that without a federal standard, it is highly likely states will not rise sufficiently to this new challenge of managing Medicaid in the Graham-Cassidy bill. Taking money from 32 Medicaid expansion states, who made it better for their citizens to obtain affordable care and give that money to the 19 states that didn't is arbitrary and punitive.

All this to give huge tax cuts to the rich, allow insurance companies even more profit, and to say we repealed Obamacare is not justified

Thank you

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jere & Dot Mead [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing

I and my extended 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.

Sincerely,
Dorothea Mead
Southwest Harbor, Maine 04679

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: j graham [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health care bill

Please do not allow the Graham-Cassidy bill to send us back to a time when healthcare was unaffordable. I've talked to dozens and dozens of friends and have not heard one person who is not fearful about the impact of this bill on themselves and their families.

I'm 57 and generally healthy, yet I already have pre-existing conditions as do most people I know. My mother (with cancer) and my sister (with severe mental health problems) would be forced to bankrupt themselves paying for health care if this passes.

Please don't do this.

thank you,
Jan Graham
Provincetown, Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: joyce botti [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please make a bi partisan plan

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have live the health insurance nightmare more than once in my life and in the lives of our children. Health care should not be subjected to the whims of big donors whose lives it will never affect. Real people go bankrupt without good coverage. Real people go without treatment without good coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Joyce Botti

Pocasset, MA.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ellen Frank-Miller [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on health care bill

Thank you for soliciting public comment on this bill

My family relies on quality, affordable health care and I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill allows the HHS Secretary too much power to enable states to reduce protections for pre-existing conditions, which would have a severe effect on my family due to our health histories.

We are hardworking Americans who pay our fair share of taxes, unlike many major corporations and our President, and we demand protection for our health care coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Ellen

Ellen Frank-Miller PhD, MSW
Professor
Brown School of Social Work
Washington University in St. Louis

Telecommuting from Evanston, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Doris May [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:46 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save ACA

My family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I appreciate all that Medicaid has done for my family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Doris May
New York, NY 10016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Mason [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public comment

Hello,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband was diagnosed with a chronic cardiac condition at age 36. He is an otherwise healthy individual, but requires medications, devices, and minor procedures. Without affordable health care, and protections for pre-existing conditions, our family would be completely hamstrung by our health care costs.

In addition, I am a mental health provider and work with many individuals who struggle with addiction and chronic mental illness. A significant number of my clients have sought services because of coverage they received through Medicaid expansion in my state. As a provider it is my strong opinion that improved access to primary and preventive care, as well as outpatient mental health services, saves our system a huge amount of money over the long run.

Thank you,
Sara Mason
Burlington, VT

--
--
Sara Mason, LCMHC, LADC
[redacted]
Burlington, VT 05401
[redacted]
[redacted]
Fax: 802.857.6116

This message and any attachments are intended for only the addressee(s). The information contained may include privileged or other confidential information. Unauthorized review, forwarding, printing, copying or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you should receive this message in error, please delete it and notify the sender. Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kari Richardson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill!

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am a self employed, single mother by choice and my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

Prior to ACA I was denied health insurance because of a pre-existing condition. The "condition" was that I had invitro fertilization (paid for out of pocket) to become pregnant. ACA allowed my (very healthy) child and I to get health insurance.

ACA is not perfect, but it is a step in the right direction. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for the health of our country.

Life should not be a pre-existing condition.

Sincerely,

Kari Richardson

Venice, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mickey Tomlinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham cassidy

Shame on you all for trying to take away health care coverage for millions of Americans!
Vote this monstrosity down!
Mickey Tomlinson
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Les [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hi,

I am fortunate to have quality, affordable healthcare through my job. Eight years ago my late wife was diagnosed with ALS and I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. That insurance allowed both of us to get quality medical care. Everyone else deserves the same. 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,

Les Baltimore

Huntington, NY 11743

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sari Hale-Alper [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comments against Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

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

I have bipolar disorder and without protections for people with preexisting conditions, I cannot obtain health insurance to pay for the prescription drugs that allow me to live and contribute to this society. Without those drugs, I die. Without the accompanying therapies, I die. That's what it means to have a serious mental health condition and not have affordable healthcare. I am still in thousands of dollars of debt from years of healthcare without insurance. Please, I can't afford this anymore. And I'm one of the lucky ones.

Please, join together to improve the ACA, not repeal it. People will die if you don't.

Sincerely,
Sarah Hale-Alper
Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katie Zilberman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Hello,

I currently receive healthcare through my employer, but both myself and my husband were, at various times, buying insurance through the marketplace. The Affordable Care Act made it possible for us to receive annual checkups and medical care without drastically depleting our savings. I still have friends and family members who, like many other Americans, buy insurance through the marketplace. The plans are not perfect, and the costs can still be high, but options for buying insurance are so much better under the ACA than they were before it was passed. Congress has recently demonstrated that cooperation is possible on issues that resonate with people on a level of basic human decency. Health care is such an issue. I hope to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the existing ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,
Kathryn Zilberman
Woodside, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Coleman [mailto:tom@grahm-casidy.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Casidy

Graham-Cassidy is a ridiculous sham of a bill. The republicans appear to be willing to damage this country to undue Obama's legacy. Either fix the ACA in an open bipartisan process or move toward Medicare for all. Stop the stunts.

Thank you

Tom Coleman
Livingston, MT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mahin Ibrahim [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Improve the ACA, not repeal it

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has several members with pre-existing conditions of mental illness and this bill would kill their chances of affordable healthcare for meds, psychiatric care and therapy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mahin Ibrahim

Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Hamilton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill -NO!

My husband was a physician that worked in the public mental health system his entire life, dedicating his work to those who were less fortunate than us. We were never by any means more than middle class and we depended on Medicare at the end of his life.

Because of bipolar disorder, he was unable to be approved for many kinds of insurance. After having taken lithium for most of his adult life he was diagnosed with renal failure and was on peritoneal dialysis for the last five years of his life.

This procedure, as you probably know, was sometimes \$20,000 to \$30,000 per month. This was in addition to additional visits to physicians for many other problems that were side effects of both bi-polar and renal failure.

Throughout the last five years of his life he was still working, seeing patients 3-4 days per week - as you might say a contributing member of our society. He worked up until two days before he was hospitalized after an emergency room visit where he was diagnosed with pneumonia.

Because of my insurance and Medicare - with expert care, he was able to live for two weeks. The MICU unit was able to stabilize him enough so that he was coherent and able to convey his wishes to us. He decided after they couldn't stop bleeding and then an unintended discovery of two cancer cells in his kidney that he would stop the dialysis.

He was able to make that decision, say goodbye to his family and then we moved him to hospice where he lived for five more days.

If we had not had Medicare his life would have been shortened by five years because there was no way that we could have paid those bills even for two months.

As a surviving spouse I was most appreciative that we were able to go to Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville and have the best of care so that we had that last week to be able to say goodbye. If we had not had that insurance he would have died at another hospital within a day.

It's not just the poor that are directly impacted by the need for good insurance.

My husband and I both worked our entire lives in the educational, arts, and medical fields to make an impact on our communities. And, still, we needed that insurance to make ends meet.

I am now single and will be needing Medicare when I retire in another couple of years and I have arthritis so that means, I won't be eligible for insurance if these draconian measures are enacted. As I retire I certainly won't be able to pay for insurance - and I have never used my insurance for more than a few doctor visits - no hospitalization except for pregnancies. I have been paying into insurance my entire adult life - should I now be penalized after spending thousands upon thousands of dollars for insurance premiums without an option for insurance coverage when I most need in the later years of my life?

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS HORRENDOUS BILL TO BECOME LAW.

IT'S NOT JUST THE POOR WHO NEED HELP. Healthcare for all should be a possibility in this century for a nation as rich as ours.

Thank you,

Stephanie Hamilton

[REDACTED]

Nashville, TN 37205

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: emily krepel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Healthcare

Dear Senators,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. So do my family, my friends, and everyone with whom I work.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I need quality, affordable healthcare. I am a woman. This is not a pre-existing condition. It's important to me that my medications are covered the same as my husband's. When I was younger, I relied on the sliding scale clinic for any type of care. I skipped checkups, didn't go to the doctor even if I was very ill, and once bandaged a finger that probably needed stitches, with a paper towel and masking tape. I could not afford to go to a doctor and my "contracted work" - of full time teaching, but part time hours didn't include health insurance. I have health insurance now. We're middle class. I still don't go to the doctor that often, but I can if needed. I want that for everyone.

I need coverage for mental health conditions. My sister has bipolar depression and ADHD. Her medical coverage costs my parents ~\$700/month. She has recently been diagnosed with an auto-immune disease. Without her medications, she would die. As it is, she doesn't get the help she needs. Her diseases make it impossible for her to maintain employment. Without a job, she cannot get reasonably priced insurance. Without guarantees for pre-existing conditions, she will be un-insurable. This affects not only her, but my entire family, both financially and emotionally. My mother is terrified of the day that she finds my sister dead. Without proper medical care, she will eventually die, painfully, if she doesn't kill herself first. Can you imagine what it's like to be a mother who expects her child to die?

I need coverage for my patients. I work in a hospice. We all die. Hospice provides quality in the final months. It reduces hospital costs, medication costs, and stress on the patient and family. Medicare covers hospice, many commercial insurances have limited coverage.

I can acknowledge that there are disadvantages to the current healthcare laws. I would like to see Medicare for all in my lifetime. While I know that we are far short of that in this political climate. It is not too much to ask that our elected officials put their constituents first. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Emily Krepel-Malec
Irvine, CA
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Paasche [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the proposed repeal of Obamacare/Graham-Cassidy Bill. Until a bipartisan bill is drawn up that does not cause 10s of millions of people to lose their health insurance, I can't see how you can in good faith support any health reform bill.

I think we all know, even if it doesn't jibe with our political consciousness, that we need to move toward a single-payer system. We have the ability to fix this problem, and the Graham-Cassidy bill is not the way to do that.

Thank you for your time,

James Paasche

--

Visiting Assistant Professor/Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow
Department of Communication and Theatre
DePauw University

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Rose [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Amendment

Hello I am writing to express my objection to the Graham Cassidy amendment for the following reasons:

Pre-existing protections are loosened . People with pre-existing conditions may have access to health insurance , but won't be able to afford the skyrocketing premiums .
decrease the amount of people with coverage .
analyzing the impact on people's lives .
Parenthood at the same time making cuts to Medicaid leaving poor women and children to go without. Where are they suppose to get care?
disabled.
that don't even cover the essential benefits like prescriptions drugs . mental health, wellness visits, emergency care, hospitalization, maternity care, pediatric care, laboratory , rehab, and ambulatory care. SO BASICALLY NO HEALTHCARE.

- 1.
2. This will
3. No CBO score
4. Defunding Planned
5. Medicaid cuts that will hurt the
6. Allow states to have insurance policies

This heartless bill that virtually every group is against will hurt the people . Its is a tax break for the rich and an opportunity for GOP to get donations from the Koch brothers . To pass this would be proof of greed and a blatant disregard for society. Please return to regular order with committees and experts weighing in. For something that is 1/6 of our economy we need a bipartisan all hands on deck approach. Thank you.

RPh

Tina M. Rose,
Congers, NY 10920

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzie Walker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Monday's Graham Cassidy Hearing

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

As a US citizen and constituent of Connecticut, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

The recent concurrence of all 50 National Association of Medicaid Directors on the disastrous implications of the bill should, alone, cause tremendous concern. The fact that the bill wouldn't even receive a full CBO score until after its scheduled passing is also alarming.

This is clearly a terrible bill and its passage would have devastating consequences for Americans' health for our country's overall economy and security. There is no reason this travesty of a bill should even be considered, and all of America will remember this vote.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Walker

Darien, CT

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse any typos.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]m
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not repeal the ACA

Hello,

I am a primary care doctor in Wisconsin, and all of my patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I fight every day to get medically appropriate and life-saving care to my patients from all walks of life, and they are all benefitting from the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,
Nina Piazza, MD
University of Wisconsin Family Medicine Resident

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: judith havice <jmhavice@j...>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

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,

Judith Havice

Whitefish Bay Wisconsin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Josetta Caudill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote No to this Bill

Listen to ALL your constituents, not just the ones who give you large sums of money to get elected. Because WE, even those of us who don't give you large sums to get elected, still pay taxes, which pay you rather large sums of money to represent us.

You know this bill is bad. You're trying to put lipstick on it, but you know it's bad.

Instead of trying to repeal, just work together with ALL members of Congress to fix the problems that Obamacare has had. Whatever you "fix" won't be perfect either, but at least try to get it as well as you can and keep discussion going.

Be fair to everyone, not just your wealthy friends. You say that the government shouldn't require anyone to "buy insurance". Really?? It requires I buy car insurance. It requires I buy unemployment insurance. I've been paying both for YEARS and have never made a claim on either. It requires I pay into Medicare and I hope to be alive for that, but it's not a given.

Insurance is paid into by everyone (even the young) so that when you need it, it's there for you. That's why it's called "insurance".

Do the **right** thing....not just the "political" thing. So you made a promise you can't keep. Politicians do it all the time. But enacting a law which hurts so many people? That's WAY worse the keeping the promise to change the law.

Josetta Caudill
Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Gmail [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, **I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.** I have a son who just graduated from college and is 23. He is covered on my employer sponsored health insurance until he is 26. My daughter is out of state in college. Because of the ACA, she will be able to have her health needs taken care of because Blue Cross Blue Shield will cover her even though she is out of network. My sister is fighting metastatic breast cancer and relies on the provisions of the ACA citing that she cannot be denied insurance for a preexisting condition. Her energy should be focused on her therapy, not on fighting against a bill that could lead to her death. She should not have to worry that her premiums might go up and she won't be able to pay them on a teacher's salary. My parents are in their mid seventies and are on a fixed income. They should not have to worry that the cost of their health care is going to sky rocket, possibly putting them into a financial crisis.

The process by which health care legislation is designed must be a bipartisan process. We should not have to feel stress every four or eight years should the party of the president or congress change. The process must include hearings and amendments and honest accounting, listening to the professionals. Health care is one sixth of the economy. As such, it deserves a complete and open process. Enough of the politics that has hampered legislation being developed that serves all Americans.

Sincerely,

Karen Cingiser

Warren, Vermont

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham bill

My family very much relies on quality, affordable healthcare, as several of us have chronic health problems. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. One of my children is on Medicaid, which allows him to get vitally important treatment for his developmental and mood diagnoses. He is partially disabled due to these disorders, as well as musculoskeletal dysfunction, and could not afford necessary treatment without this coverage. My other child still covered under a family policy at age 24, and would not be able to receive treatment for chronic disorders related to prematurity and gestational medications, without such coverage.

I am strongly in favor of a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The current law is sufficiently well-established that, minus the political infighting, it makes the most sense to fix the implementation problems rather than plunging the country into economic chaos by starting over with a hastily-conceived and poorly-thought-through theory.

Please, let us cooperate in making healthcare accessible for all of us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily D. Moore, Ph.D.
Albuquerque NM

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mari Pack [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against Graham-Cassidy

I am adamantly against the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. I am a full time freelancer with a chronic condition, and my employers do not provide me with usable insurance. I use the ACA market. Please find a bi-partisan solution to fix Obamacare.

Mari Pack
New York

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dina Friedman [redacted] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony on Graham-Cassidy bill

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for the following reasons:

--I am concerned about people with pre-existing conditions being charged much higher premiums. Relaxation of requirements under the ACA will allow some states to provide waivers to insurance companies on these regulations.

As I have family members with chronic illness, this is a personal issue.

--My home state of Massachusetts, which has been at the forefront of providing subsidies to assure that all people who have quality access to health care would be devastated. This bill punishes states that have attempted to expand Medicaid and provide more access to health care, while rewarding states that have not.

--The bill defunds Planned Parenthood for one year, which is a key player in providing breast cancer screenings and health care to poor women across the country.

--The bill clearly fails the "Jimmy Kimmel" test.

While I understand that there are problems with the ACA, efforts moving forward should be bipartisan. A "win" for the GOP should not be at the expense of a "loss" for 32 million people who would stand to lose their health insurance. Furthermore, Congress should enact legislation to make sure that the insurance markets are stabilized while new legislation that has broad support from both sides of the aisle is enacted.

Sincerely,
D. Dina Friedman
Hadley, MA

--

D. Dina Friedman
Author, *Escaping Into the Night* (Simon & Schuster, 2006)
Playing Dad's Song (Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2006)

[redacted]
NYPL Best Book for the Teen Age
AJL Notable Book for Older Readers
VOYA Top Shelf Fiction

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brooke Ireland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Do Not Repeal The Affordable Care Act

Dear Senators,

My boyfriend and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I worked in the restaurant industry right out of college, making little money. I was able to afford health insurance because of the affordable care act, which allowed me access to doctors when I was ill, and substance abuse counseling when I was struggling with an alcohol addiction, which would have otherwise been unaffordable. I have had a wonderful job for the last year and a half that provides health insurance as a benefit, but my boyfriend is unable to receive healthcare as a benefit from his employer. My employer allows him to be a dependent of my insurance policy, but the only plan we can afford has a deductible of \$13,000. After two regular doctors appointments, a dermatology checkup, and an ingrown toenail removal I have incurred 2.5k in medical bills that are a serious hinderance as we are buying our first home. We plan to select an affordable care act insurance plan for my boyfriend in December so that I can move to a different plan with a reasonable deductible.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. It's begun to feel like Groundhog Day each time the republicans make an effort to end the ACA. I wish their efforts would be redirected to one of the numerous other issues facing this country. The people have clearly expressed their opinion on the ACA, a resounding NO to every effort to appeal.

Sincerely,

Brooke K. Ireland

Ithaca, New York

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Mueller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Beth_Pearson@markey.senate.gov; Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

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 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.

Sincerely,
John F. Mueller, MD, FAACP

[REDACTED]
Rochester, MA 02770

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Condry [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments

My family members and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have been denied coverage because of pre-existing conditions in the past and know first hand how scary and stressful it is to face serious illness without insurance. More than myself, I worry about older family members that would be irreparably harmed should this bill become law. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Rachel Condry

Oakland, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] behalf of Sam McGregor [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

As a US citizen who has experienced the many benefits of universal healthcare overseas, I am continually astounded by the inability of American politicians to consider the positive advantages, ethically, medically and economically of providing healthcare to the entire population. Linking the ability to stay alive to one's economic status or political persuasion is uncaring, inconsiderate, disrespectful, dangerous and just downright stupid. Try considering what you can do FOR your constituents and the country as a whole, instead of what you can do AGAINST some mythical political enemy.

S.A.McGregor

North Kingstown, RI 02852

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Gill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill PLEASE PASS!!!!!!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare, which we have not seen for years. Since the ACA was implemented, we have seen our premiums experience double digit increases nearly every year and our annual out-of-pocket costs sky-rocket from a high 5,999.99 to just over 12,000.00 before coverage even STARTS.

We have already pretty much experienced a "lost decade" with the economy tanking throughout the last administration and, as retirement grows ever closer for us, we cannot sustain this level of expense.

PLEASE REPEAL the ACA and pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill so each state can decide how best to manage the health care services needs of their citizenry where those who manage the disbursement of the funds are able to be held accountable by their voters.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gill

[REDACTED] t.

Milwaukee, WI 53224

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Parent [redacted] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health Care Bill

I rely on affordable health care, as do most people in this country. 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,
Mary Parent
Lexington, MA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Meagan Doyle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. After I turned 26 and before I had a job that offered health benefits, I relied on the ACA for health insurance I could afford. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Meagan Doyle
Brunswick, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jim Ventresca [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Graham-Cassidy Please

Dear Senators,

My wife, myself and my mother-in-law all rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My wife and I both work full time and my mother-in-law has a condition that requires 24-hour assistance. Medicaid is the only way she can be cared for. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Ventresca, Calais, Vermont

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Clark [mailto:jclark@wesome.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement for the record- graham/cassidy bill

Dear senate finance committee,
This bill sucks and I feel like this wouldn't be an issue if you all had the same health insurance we have.
Something to think about.
Please do not sentence us all to death
-Jennifer Page
Active voter, NYS

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Shepherd [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

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

Sincerely,

Virginia Shepherd
Nashville, TN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jonathan Green [mailto:jonathan.green@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public testimony: Graham-Cassidy hearing

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,

Jonathan Green

Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicole Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very concerned about the Graham-Cassidy bill that is currently being considered. My family and I rely on quality and affordable health care. In my family we have to deal with diabetes, hypertension, multiple sclerosis, and adrenal insufficiency. Without affordable healthcare, our family would greatly suffer! Please do not repeal the ACA--but instead work towards a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA.

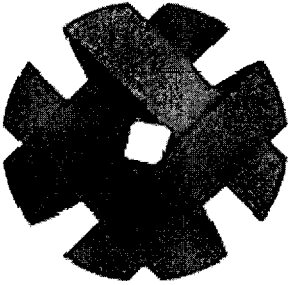
Sincerely,
Nicole Nelson
Lincoln, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dyer, Rachel M [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: comments for hearing
Attachments: grantcassidy.docx

We will also mail these in as instructed.

Rachel Dyer, MBA
Associate Director



Maine Developmental Disabilities Council
- promoting full inclusion for people with developmental disabilities

[REDACTED]
Augusta, ME 04330
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Rachel.M.Dyer@Maine.gov

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Howland [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against Graham/Cassidy

Hello,

I am a first grade teacher at a public school serving low-income students in New Haven, Connecticut. My students and their families rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to give all Americans access to Medicaid or a similar single-payer health insurance plan.

Sincerely,

Sarah Howland

New Haven, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Christina Craig-Veit [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health bill

My daughter relies on receiving quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. She has a pre-existing history of depression and Terriens' degeneration of the cornea in one eye, both of which would disqualify her for care for these conditions under the Graham-Cassidy version of Trumpcare. Although she's a paralegal in a small law office, she still qualifies for Medi-Cal because of her low income. Without the ACA, she would not be able to afford health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Christina Craig-Veit

Davis, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kat Setzer [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing to ask you please oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill now under consideration by your committee. This legislation, which would eliminate Medicaid as a federal entitlement, would be devastating to many individuals and families. As the sister of a person with autism and a friend of people with Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, and Lupus, I've seen how essential Medicaid is to many American's quality of life. Please stand up for our most vulnerable citizens and oppose this bill.

Best,

Katherine Setzer

[REDACTED]
Salem, MA 01970

(Recently moved from Cleveland Heights, OH 44118).

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margie & Richard Irland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:43 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is a BAD Bill

I am against this bill. As a former nurse I know of the struggles that those with little to no health care have. We deserve better in our nation. I personally know of someone right now who suffered a major heart attack but has such terrible insurance that he isn't allowed to attend cardiac rehab due to cost!

Never a bad idea to have a call to arms. Here's my response:

I wanted to state my opposition to the Graham Cassidy health bill on account of how it will strip millions of health insurance, open up the possibilities for rescinding protections like no lifetime insurance caps, and for the fact the bill hasn't been properly debated or even scored by the CBO. Please, do your jobs and work to support ALL Americans and vote against this legislation,



[REDACTED]
New Glarus WI

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ELIZABETH TRIANO <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments on Graham-Cassidy Abomination, I mean Bill

Dear Elected Officials who Shouldn't Need These Reminders:

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, as does everyone else in this state, nation, & world. I personally knew someone who died because she couldn't afford treatment for her breast cancer. Everyone is touched by this issue. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. A lot.

It shouldn't come down to everyone making this personal, but I'll go ahead and list a few personal bits:

I myself was a transverse breech baby, and there was a medical class present when I was born.

My parents have had various hospitalizations, etc., over the decades.
Our oldest son was in NICU for most of his first week, and was a childhood asthmatic.
Our younger son has already had two surgeries to repair broken bones.

I can't even count the injuries that my husband has sustained over the years -- he's an active guy.
Oh, and I have lymphoma, and am on my fourth round of chemo... immunotherapy does wonders. Research is great. Support education too!!

None of us are on disability or anything like that (and I do believe in those programs btw) -- all three boys are Eagle Scouts and we're involved in the community, and those who are healthy enough give blood regularly. We do our part. Please do yours.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Why isn't this obvious?

Sincerely,

Elizabeth R. Apgar Triano

Patterson NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cynthia Case [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please DO NOT Pass Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Reader,

I am a 66-years-old woman, still employed full-time, married with two grown children. Both of our kids relied on ACA when they joined the working world because they could not afford individual healthcare and their jobs did not provide benefits. Fortunately, both are healthy and contributing tax payers.

Please listen to the overwhelming majority of Americans who appreciate ACA. Improve. . . not repeal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cynthia Case
[REDACTED]
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Jewett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hi,

My name is Lauren. I am a 28 year old seminary student and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I was diagnosed with Chronic Lyme disease when I was 23 years old, after 5 years of mysterious symptoms, chronic pain, and fatigue, which caused me to take a leave of absence from my undergraduate program. Because I had health insurance, I was able to return one semester later to finish my studies. Lyme resurfaced again when I was 23, and during my first year of graduate school ten hours away from my home and family, I underwent 6 months of IV antibiotic treatment, which I view as saving my life. I am now mostly recovered and relatively healthy, but without affordable health care, would likely not be able to remain so. I am currently insured only because of the medicaid expansion in the Affordable Care Act, which the state of California chose to accept. Being on Medi-Cal this year will allow me to finally finish my graduate studies without fearing that I will not be able to access the healthcare support I need to remain healthy, and find work as a Chaplain in a Children's Hospital, helping our young people to be cared for and supported during their own experiences of injury and disease.

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

Sincerely,
Lauren Jewett

Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

I work in an Aging Service agency, with the Senior and disabled population, in eastern Massachusetts. Many of these citizens rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I understand how this bill will affect those with disabilities, pre-existing conditions and the low income. 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 will take time. Rushing through a bill that has not been reviewed or scored is not the way to Make America Great Again. I respectfully ask that you vote this bill down and come back to the people... All the American people, with a bill that takes care of all of us.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service,
Shari Ellis

[REDACTED]
Burlington MA 01803

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Porter, Barbara [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: i DO NOT support the graham cassidy bill.

My patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have countless stories of patients who are alive only because of Medicaid, and because of their participation in health exchanges. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to *improve* the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Barbara Porter MD
New York, NY

Visit [Redacted]

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information in this E-Mail may be confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on this e-mail, is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this E-Mail message in error, notify the sender by reply E Mail and delete the message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Smith Susan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My family, like most American families, relies on quality, affordable healthcare.
A country is only as strong as its people and healthcare is a cornerstone in having a healthy population.

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

Sincerely,

Susan Smith

Verona, WI 53593

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: PLEASE VOTE "NO" ON THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

My neighbors and family and myself wish to see the ACA LEFT IN PLACE and improved in a bipartisan manner by our CONGRESS. Sincerely, Robert B. Sweeney

Los Angeles, California. 91335

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex Kelsey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Feedback on repeal of the ACA

The lives and well-being of my closest friends and family rely on the access to quality healthcare that they gained through the implementation of the ACA. For my friends and family, and for the millions of others who rely on this same access, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My most recent encounter with the issue of affordability in healthcare was when my best friend, who lives in Portland, Oregon and is currently attending graduate school, was afflicted with appendicitis. As you likely know, appendicitis is a medical emergency that requires immediate surgery, or risk fatal consequences. This singular life-threatening emergency is not rare. In the U.S., 1 in 20 people will get appendicitis. No one in the wealthiest country in the world should be afraid of going to the hospital to get surgery for that. Without the ACA, my friend would have been thousands and thousands of dollars in debt, making it difficult or impossible to continue through graduate school.

While many people, including myself, will recognize that the ACA is not a perfect solution, the Graham-Cassidy bill is simply playing politics with the lives of fellow human-beings. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA and move towards single-payer health care.

Thank you for your time.

Alex Kelsey

Seattle, Washington by way of Billings, Montana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Franzosa [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Committee Members -

I urge you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. I work in the home care industry, where every day I see first-hand the difference that Medicaid funding makes in the lives of elderly and disabled clients, and the workers who care for them. The Graham-Cassidy bill would decimate funding for these critical services, and literally put the lives of our most vulnerable citizens on the line.

Almost three and a half million Americans depend on home care services to live safe, independent lives with dignity. This number is growing rapidly as our population ages, Medicaid pays the majority share of these services, as well as a large share of the wages of dedicated home care workers, who tirelessly perform an incredibly demanding job with little compensation. State Medicaid programs are already lean, and cannot absorb these cuts without being forced to cut services, limit enrollment, or impose high costs on the people who can least afford them.

Cutting care for our elderly and disabled Americans is not good policy, and it is not who are as a country. Please do not vote for this devastating bill.

Sincerely,
Emily Franzosa, DrPH

--
Emily Franzosa, DrPH, MA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:34 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to Graham-Cassidy!!

Good day,

I am an American ExPat living in Norway. I still vote and still care about what is happening to my fellow Americans, friends and family back home. Living in Norway for the past 12 years, I have experienced firsthand what a universal healthcare system is like. Let me be clear: it is awesome and Americans deserve to live in a country that provides QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR ALL.

In Norway, I gave birth to two children FOR FREE! After giving birth, I had up to a year PAID maternity/paternity (AND PATERNITY, you heard correctly) leave with another unpaid year, if needed, without threat of losing one's job.. My children's healthcare is FREE. My healthcare costs for each visit (unless I need over a certain amount in a year, in which case there is a limit to what you pay) but it is a reasonable co-pay and pharmacy costs are also reasonable. Being sick in Norway will NOT break the bank.

This healthcare comes with slightly higher taxes, but for what we, in Norway, get back from the tax paid out is WELL WORTH IT. Listen to Bernie Sanders. He is on the right track. Forget about tearing down Obamacare because Trump and many Republicans are petty. Instead, say NO to this latest mockery of a healthcare bill and work with Bernie Sanders to provide ALL Americans with an even BETTER, universal healthcare system. I mean, is this life is all we have and healthcare is what keeps our quality of life to the standard Americans deserve in this modern world, why should only the wealthy have access to the care they need?

Figuring out how to get the US onto the list of counties who provide universal healthcare (most other westernized countries are already on this list) is a tough job - don't take the easy way out. SAY NO TO GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Sincerely,
Sandra S. Salus

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deepak Singh <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition of the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am a resident of Massachusetts. I wholly agree with many people that the current Affordable Care Act can (and indeed, should) be improved. But passing the Graham-Cassidy health care bill will adversely affect many of us – if not all of us, sometime or the other.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Our son is blind and deaf, caused by treatment given to him to fight brain cancer. While we dread the disease coming back, how do you think he feels, not knowing what treatment, if any would he be given? While fortunately he is in the minority, he is not unique in this country. What do we say to him why the current ACA needs to be changed. Who would benefit with the change.

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.

Respectfully,

Deepak Singh
[REDACTED]

Cambridge, MA 02140
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nnaimark@gmail.com on behalf of Nathan Naimark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

My family and I rely on affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill and would like to see a bipartisan effort to strengthen the ACA, not to repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nathan Naimark
Phoenix, AZ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wendy Zdrodowski <wendyzdrodowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment in opposition

I reply on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I have asthma, which is a pre-existing condition. When the real estate market tanked in 2009, and I lost my job, trying to maintain coverage under COBRA resulted in my having to file bankruptcy. When I first was able to find another job (paying \$30k/yr), I was unable to obtain coverage under private insurance for less than \$982 a month, and that was without coverage for my asthma. I was able to obtain coverage under my state's high risk pool (which is the kind of thing that would be set up under the proposed new "block grant" system) but it was expensive and did not cover many of my maintenance medications. While working a full-time job, I was dependent on charity programs from the drug companies for my inhalers. Under the ACA, I am able to get coverage that I can afford (though with an income of \$36k/yr I still receive a small subsidy) and am able to maintain my health and remain a productive tax-paying citizen.

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

Wendy Zdrodowski
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Deutsch [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care Act

To Whom it may concern,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. In 2011 I had colo-rectal cancer and got successful treatment through my employer's health insurance plan, which was later cancelled as our group was determined to be too small. I was unable to get coverage for another year before the ACA was ratified and had to forgo important follow up procedures that could have compromised my health. I felt like a leper--that this disease which did not have anything to do with wrong behavior on my part would now define me as unworthy to be served. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lauren Deutsch
Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kimberly Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save the ACA

To whom it may concern,
please work to stop this monster of a bill (Graham /Cassidy) from becoming our new reality. Every expert knows that it is a really bad deal especially for those of us with preexisting conditions. I have health insurance through my job but I fear for those who don't. Please help all Americans keep access to affordable health care, please don't let them take it away from upwards of 32 million people. We are praying for help in these terrifying dark days.

Thanks,

Kimberly Clark
University of California, San Francisco
[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94158

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Lowenstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

It is mind boggling to believe that almost all Republicans in Congress are willing to harm tens of millions of their fellow Americans by voting for the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill is opposed by doctors, hospitals, insurers, 50 state Medicaid directors, 8 Republican governors, and the vast majority of the American people.

Have you all forgotten your Oath of Office?

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So help me God."

Among those duties is the obligation to represent the people living in your state, not the Koch brothers. Open your eyes. Think about your legacy. Do not pass Graham-Cassidy.

Barbara Lowenstein
Voter, New York State

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Margaret McNally [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My grown children and their families 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,

Margaret McNally

Brooklyn, NY

--

Margaret McNally

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY - [REDACTED]



Member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA), the International Association of College Admission Counseling, and NACAC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Forester, Jeff <jeff@mn.lakesandrivers.org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:45 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

Please return this issue to regular order, have debates, take amendments, and get this right. You have the opportunity to end this endless and destructive back and forth, the endless uncertainty surrounding one of the most important aspects of a citizen's life - their health care.

Ramming through this bill without debate, without a CBO score, without amendments is simply bad policy. It is cynical and shameful.

You have the opportunity to put governance over politics - this is what the American people want. Be the leaders you have the potential to be.

Thank you for your service,

--

Jeff Forester
Executive Director, MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: susan southwell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA repeal

Dear Senate Committee members:

Please vote against this most recent attempt to repeal the ACA. The cuts to Medicaid, to the protection for people with preexisting conditions and many more elements of this proposal would hurt members of my family, namely a brother and his wife with a serious preexisting condition and a developmentally disabled cousin whose father supported him without Medicaid assistance until the father passed away at age 90. Now at age 61 my cousin relies completely on Medicaid for his well-being.

I want to see the bipartisan approach to fix problems with ACA without slashing aid to those who need it most, which has been put forward by several state governors, adopted.

Sincerely,
Susan Southwell
registered voter in zip 80516

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly Schneider [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

September 22, 2017

Senate Committee on Finance

Attn: Editorial and Document Section

Rm. SD-219

Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.

Washington, DC 20510-6200

Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal (09/25/17)

Dear Esteemed Members of the Senate,

Today I write in vehement opposition to the Graham-Cassidy “healthcare” bill. You don’t need me to tell you how terrible it is. You know how terrible it is. You know it would be devastating to our healthcare system and to the people who already have the most difficulty accessing care. Many senators have admitted as much while still insisting they will vote for it anyway. This is despicable, petty, and, frankly, childish. It’s also incredibly stupid. Any Senator who votes this way ought to be utterly ashamed of themselves. Not only how dare you, but how COULD you?

As you consider a vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill, please ask yourself this question: Is this the person I want to be?

Every major medical association has denounced this disaster of a bill. Passing it would mean increased suffering, financial ruin, and, yes, death, for many Americans. This bill is a stunning act of revenge that uses the health of millions of Americans as a political bargaining chip. If you vote for this bill because of the political

advantage you think it will garner you, you are a terrible excuse for a leader and a terrible excuse for a human being.

It's a bad bill, and you should not vote for it. The fact that anyone should have to tell you this is outrageous. The fact that so many people must spend so much time contacting their senators to beg them not to vote for a very obviously disastrous bill is both pathetic and infuriating.

You work for the American people. Prove that you have earned their trust. Be a leader. Do the right thing. Do the correct thing. You know what it is. Do not vote for this terrible bill.

I wish you the strength to do what you know is right.

Sincerely,

Molly Schneider

A thick black horizontal bar redacting the signature of Molly Schneider.

Evanston, IL 60201

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Klaver [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: no on G-C

Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy. We, the people, need affordable health care. It's the dependence of the emergency rooms of our hospitals, for those who can't afford - or think they don't need - health insurance that will bankrupt us.

Barbara Klaver
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Myers [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:00 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.

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.

Robert Myers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rosendale, NY, New York 12472

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carolann Solebello [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. At the moment, we are fortunate to be covered by employer-based health insurance, but what happens if we lose that, as we once did? The cost of continuing coverage back in the days before the ACA was outrageous, and financially crippled our family until a new job could be found. We were fortunate to have remained healthy during that time, but catastrophic illness or injury would easily have bankrupted us. Without the ACA, I fear that could happen again, this time with devastating results.

Because of our story, and because I believe health insurance is a right all Americans, regardless of income level or employment, should enjoy, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Best regards,

Carolann Solebello
Brooklyn, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Erin Gordon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Instead of focusing so blindly on Obamacare, can our lawmakers turn to far more urgent matters such as the extremely real threat of nuclear war and the irreparable damage that the Trump Administration is doing to our democracy? PLEASE just stop focusing on repealing the ACA and start leading the country through this very dangerous time. Thank you.
Leslie (Erin) Gordon, San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Cramer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: For the Graham-Cassidy hearing

Hello,

My mother-in-law relies on quality, affordable healthcare. She is a widow on a fixed income. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. She depends on Medicare for treatment of her diabetes, hypertension, macular degeneration and a skin condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Lauren Cramer, North Andover, MA

Turn-Key Events
Lauren Cramer
Chief Event Planner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Roslyn Hjernstad [redacted]@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:57 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

My family and I rely on Medicare for our healthcare needs. Even Medicare is in jeopardy because of the efforts to repeal the ACA, particularly for those of us with pre-existing conditions. We will be at the mercy of huge co-payments and premium increases that will be permissible with the repeal/replace bill. Please keep Medicare and Medicaid as they are. There are some things that could be improved with the ACA, so please work in a bipartisan fashion to make it even better.

To just try to repeal the ACA because of campaign promises is ridiculous in light of better up-to-date information.

Thank you for listening!

Roslyn Hjernstad in Cannon Falls, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marci Ellingwood [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:39 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This bill is a charade. My premiums would go up \$4620 and I cannot afford that! My husband and I would not be able to afford our prescriptions to say nothing of the added costs for pre-existing conditions. This bill will dramatically hurt rural health care in Maine including the closure of small hospitals. Maine has the oldest population in the country and over 50% of people in Maine have Medicaid. How will I be able to afford long term care for my aging mother when it is needed. What will happen to my sister who has a rare form of cancer if there is a life time cap. This bill is bad and should not receive passage or funding. Sincerely, Marci A.
[REDACTED] St. Auburn, Maine 04210

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Melissa MacWilliams [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Affordable Health Care

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. In 2004, I was laid off from my job in biotech and would lose my company paid health insurance. My COBRA premium was going to cost me \$1200 per month, which was impossible to pay on unemployment while I looked for another job.

Because they felt bad about they layoff, my employers put me in touch with their insurance broker to help me find insurance I could afford. I answered all his questions: I've never smoked, I don't sky dive, I'm beyond child bearing age, I am not overweight, I've never been seriously ill in my life. "No problem," said the broker. "We'll get you all fixed up with a private insurance policy."

Then he asked me, "Is there anything we didn't cover that you think I should know?" I told him I had recently been diagnosed with sleep apnea, which was being successfully treated. Suddenly, he changed his tune. "Sorry--you will not be able to get insurance with that pre-existing condition." He got off the phone quickly.

I had no choice but to take the first job I was offered because it came with group health insurance. The job was a terrible fit, a long commute, and as soon as I could I took another job that came with insurance. This pattern continued until 2013 when the ACA kicked in and I was able to get my own insurance at a reasonable rate.

This bill being rushed through the legislative "process" would make things even worse than they were in those days and hurt a lot of people, just to satisfy a promise made to wealthy donors. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Melissa MacWilliams
Richmond, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeri Zeder [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public citizen testimony against Graham Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I oppose the so-called Graham Cassidy bill. My family needs quality, affordable healthcare. I could name so many reasons why this is important to me and to others, but I will limit myself to this: I have a child with two terribly serious pre-existing conditions. As he grows older, his ability to earn a livelihood and be as healthy as he can be will depend enormously on whether his medical needs are met. Bankruptcy and tragic health consequences loom in his future if the ACA is repealed. It's obvious how bad that is for him. But it should be equally obvious that it is bad for our country if he and people like him lose their ability to be productive members of society for want of affordable healthcare.

Senators, please stop the hyper-partisan madness. Americans need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Let's start today.

Sincerely,
Jeri Zeder

[REDACTED]
Lexington, MA 02420

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

My family members rely on the ACA for their health care. The proposed G-C bill would not provide coverage for them or indeed for millions of Americans now covered by the ACA. This is literally a matter of life and death. I condemn this bill as inadequate and immoral. I know this country can serve its people better. I urge bipartisan work to create a health care bill that provides comprehensive and affordable care for all citizens.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Gottlieb
[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60645

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:40 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

I urgently plead with you to work on a bipartisan health care bill that will take the useful components of the ACA and improve on them instead of trying to go in a new direction which is distrusted and feared by the majority of the American people. Common sense should dictate making this bipartisan effort. Missy Holbrook, 13047 Endicott Dr., Clearwater, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tricia Little [mailto:tricia.little@...]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy will hurt my family

My husband is a Pastor at a small Baptist church, so my family relies private insurance. Before ACA, we had only a catastrophic policy with no maternity coverage. When I got pregnant with my youngest, I spent hours on the phone trying to get information from the local hospitals about how much it would cost to have my baby in their facilities, and none of them would be forthright with me about costs. Even while I was trying to find out how to afford giving birth to my son, my preschool aged daughter fell and hurt her neck. Paying out-of-pocket for the imaging to look for damage to her spine took an entire paycheck.

We rely on quality, affordable healthcare through the healthcare marketplace. A repeal of ACA would hurt our family.

I want to see a bipartisan effort to improve the flaws in ACA, not an effort to repeal it.

Sincerely,
Tricia Little

Villa Park, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Masters [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:38 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.

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.

Richard Masters
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bozeman, Montana 59718

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sanford Lacks [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:38 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.

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.

Sanford Lacks
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, New York 11719

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joan Sindall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicare is twofold: both my husband and I have had health scares involving surgery and, in his case, hospitalization. Medicare made it possible for us to afford the care we needed.

We are strongly against this effort.

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

Joan Sindall & MacGregor Freeman

Cambridge, MA 02140

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helene Babbitt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: 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,

Helene Babbitt

Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Pritchard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the GCH Bill

Dear Senators, I live in Urbana, IL and am a senior citizen with lifelong disabilities of visual impairment and cerebral palsy. I live in fear of the affordable care act being changed and or decimated. I need health insurance, and right now I'm on Medicare. I have lived on Medicaid and don't want to go back to that. There was a time when my late husband and I each could not get health insurance due to pre-existing conditions. Without health insurance coverage, most of the money I have would have gone towards physical, occupation and aquatic therapy to overcome a negative reaction to Botox that I received January 21st, 2016. I was already receiving good medical checkups and medical follow up, but my out of pocket healthcare costs would have been astronomical in the last two years without health insurance. I don't want to return to the days of not having health insurance. We were actually told by a health insurance company over the phone, that if we could only walk, they MIGHT be able to cover us, but since we were wheelchair users, they wouldn't cover our health insurance needs at all. Because of regular therapy and checkups, I am able to lead a relatively healthy and active lifestyle. Please don't let me down. I don't want to repeat situations from the past.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Pritchard
[REDACTED]

Urbana, IL 61802
[REDACTED]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pen Houston [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Americans want healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Why would we want a bad plan that would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and roll 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.

Please protect the dwindling Middle class and the Working class of America.

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. The time has come for 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.

Pen Houston

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oakland, California 94618

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Pitard [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:40 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Kill the bill

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is a horrible alternative to Obamacare. It will literally throw our most vulnerable citizens under the bus. There are many other horrible things I could mention about this bill, like the fact that ACA supporting states will also be punished, but the point is, if the Republican Party truly wants to be the pro-life party, then this bill must go.

Thank you.

Sarah Pitard - a Champaign, IL voter.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: DR. DEAN RUDOY [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:41 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE IT DOWN !!!!

Finance Committee,

GRAHAM-CASSIDY -- yet ANOTHER grotesque attempt to rob American citizens of their health care and line the bottomless pockets of the health industry. Do the right thing !! VOTE IT DOWN !!!!

DR. DEAN RUDOY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cedar Crest, New Mexico 87008

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Eva Levine [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to voice my dismay and concern over the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I urge you to oppose it.

Thank you in advance for taking the responsibility to provide adequate health care for our country.

Eva Levine
New Canaan, CT 06840

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Combs [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA!!!

My family needs our insurance - don't take it away!!! Keep the ACA!!

James Combs
West Lafayette, IN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stacy Kamau [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:06 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on the Graham-Cassidy Act

Hello,

I am writing today to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Act. As a hospital employee who has several pre-existing conditions, I take 5 daily maintenance medications that cost \$60 in total each month, after my employer-sponsored health plan pays their part. I make approximately 27k a year, and live alone. Affording copays (\$35-45 each) and my medications means choosing between my health and my utility bills now, with the plan I currently have.

Oklahoma is already scrambling to fill a budget deficit of a quarter of a billion dollars. Graham-Cassidy would strip another 1.7 billion. Our state legislature has shown themselves to be just as cruel to the working poor here as their federal counterparts are. If my healthcare is in their hands, I will lose my coverage due to my conditions and would likely be forced into bankruptcy or filing for disability.

Graham-Cassidy is destructive, cruel, and will be an economic atomic bomb. It must not pass. The Medicare for all plan sponsored by Bernie Sanders is the only workable solution to resolve this debate over healthcare.

Respectfully,

Stacy Kamau
[REDACTED]

Tulsa, OK 74107

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alisha Lineswala <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Lori Smetanka
Subject: (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender)
Consumer Voice State for the Record
Attachments: Consumer Voice Statement for Graham-Cassidy Proposal Hearing FINAL.pdf

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and Members of the Committee:

We thank you for holding this hearing on the impact that the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal will have on the healthcare, including access to care, for millions of Americans. The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care ("Consumer Voice") also appreciates the Committee's decision to hold the record of this hearing open to receive additional viewpoints from beneficiaries and providers.

Please see our attached statement for the record for the hearing on Monday, September 25, 2017.

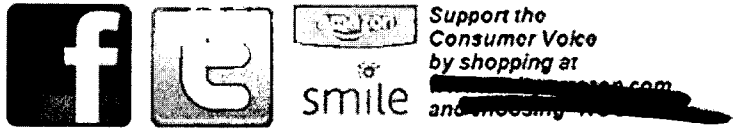
Sincerely,
Alisha Lineswala

--

ALISHA LINESWALA, J.D.
Public Policy & Program Specialist



With your support, the Consumer Voice can continue to advocate for quality long-term care.



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Keane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am contacting you in regards to the Graham/Cassidy bill to explain why it is not a good bill for Americans.

Firstly, I implore Congress not to put this bill to vote without a CBO score. Please do not vote without understanding the financial and economic impact on the livelihood of Americans.

Secondly, we cannot have a bill that loosens or eliminates protections for pre-existing conditions. We cannot go backwards. As an American with 8 auto-immune diseases, I and many others like me, will suffer greatly and potentially die if we cannot afford the costs of healthcare.

Thirdly, I am concerned that money to Medicaid will be drastically reduced making costs for my parents, the elderly and people with disabilities surge.

Fourthly, this bill does not appear to provide healthcare to more Americans. Conversely, it is estimated that 30 million Americans will lose their existing coverage. This will create a longer term burden on our society, cause suffering for many, and people will die without healthcare.

Therefore, if this bill created would cost us more and covers less people than the ACA, then my only conclusion is that this bill was to push through a package for the GOP to pay for tax cuts and to benefit the wealthy only.

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy bill and instead work toward fixing the problems with the existing ACA on a bi-partisan level, so that all Americans can obtain healthcare which is a human right.

Maureen Keane
Chicago 60654

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dina Zwiebel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Needs in the Community

As a mental health provider my clients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I work with numerous people who heal with the help of outpatient treatment in their professional and personal lives whose would be left without mental health treatment should this bill pass. Untreated mental health issues and illness affect all of us in many domains of our lives. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Dina Zwiebel, LCPC

Chicago, IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jason L. Miller [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Franciscan Action Network Vehemently Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: Franciscan Action Network Vehemently Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill.docx

Inspired by the Gospel of Jesus, and the example of Saints Francis and Clare, the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) is a collective Franciscan voice seeking to transform United States public policy related to peace making, care for creation, poverty, and human rights.

Franciscan Action Network Vehemently Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Bill

The Franciscan Action Network (FAN) joins with the Catholic Health Association of the United States and many other faith based organizations in opposing the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Our faith calls us to maintain the fundamental tenet of human dignity and quality of life. Restricting access to care for anyone, but most especially the most vulnerable, is immoral and unethical.

While there will be no official Congressional Budget Office Score, it's estimated 32 million people could lose their coverage and that two-thirds of the drop in health coverage would fall on low-income Americans who rely on Medicaid.

"Depending on God who knit each of us together in our mother's womb, we call an acknowledgement of our common human interdependence and responsibility of one to another, of government representatives to their people," said FAN board Vice President Fr. Mike Lasky. "This solidarity of concern for one and all is made strong when the individual threads of life issues, among these is health care, are woven together into a garment of life for the protection and comfort of us all, especially the poor, vulnerable and marginalized. The Graham-Cassidy Bill will effectively snap the thread of our right for universal health care thereby tearing the garment of life and unnecessarily exposing the poor and most vulnerable to the elements of harm and indifference."

The greatness of our nation is not measured on how wealthy the richest are, but rather how we care for the poorest. Therefore the Franciscan Action Network opposes the Graham-Cassidy Bill and encourages Congress to find a bipartisan solution to increasing healthcare access for all Americans.

--
Jason L. Miller
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wen Gu [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy bill

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state, 90 seconds of debate? If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill!

Wen Gu, Ph.D.

[REDACTED] Professor
[REDACTED] Program Evaluations & Assessment Services, LLC

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
New York, NY 10003
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Peterson [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.

Peter Peterson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WALNUT CREEK, California 94595

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Renee Domeier [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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.

Renee Domeier
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

St. Joseph, Minnesota 56374-2020

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dennis Korteuer <dkorte@ucla.edu>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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.

Dennis Korteuer
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Long Beach, California 90804

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Kingsbury [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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, including myself, rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Personally, this rolls make out much harder for me to continue running my small business--accessing healthcare is a huge issue and in the past had gives me to scale down my business so that I can take a job with health care benefits, even though in the long term continuing with my business is better for the local economy. 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.

Where's the tax break for small businesses like mine but actually do pay 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.

Kathryn Kingsbury
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Madison, Wisconsin 53704

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marjorie Aiello [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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.

Marjorie Aiello
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hally Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose Graham-Cassidy

My partner and I depend on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing health problem causing daily chaos in my life. I am fortunate to be employed at an organization that provides insurance and accordingly the stability to pursue a fantastic career. However, I will feel stuck to stay in this role, force to turn my back on my career aspirations if the protections for existing conditions go away.

My partner is self-employed and relies on access to affordable insurance and healthcare to be able to meet the demanding needs of his business. Without the ACA, he would have to fold the business to get a job providing insurance benefits; with ACA he has been able to commit to and grow a soon-to-be thriving home renovation business.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The ACA has been central to us committing to and achieving the American Dream. Don't take that away from us.

Sincerely, Hally Turner
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bert Menco [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 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.

Bert Menco
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Evanston, Illinois 60202

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elizabeth Leighton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 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.

Elizabeth Leighton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Richardson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 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.

Peter Richardson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Washington, District of Columbia 20016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chris Talbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 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.

Chris Talbert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bradford, Massachusetts 01835

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ed Geppert [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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 Geppert

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Belleville, Illinois 62220

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Touhey [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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.

Paula Touhey
[redacted]
[redacted]

Kenosha , Wisconsin 53142

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hannah Dexter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

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, Hannah

Hollywood, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sonny Cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill - My Story

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, **I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.**

My story with pre-existing conditions is my daughter in-law and affordability for my son.

My daughter in law turns 26 this year and will no longer be on her parents' insurance. She will enter the healthcare market with certain pre-existing conditions. She is going to school part time and works part time. Finances are tough. My son, her husband, works in food preparation. He earns \$15/hour and has no benefits. His health insurance, which he currently has under ACA, is still a financial burden, even with subsidies. Anything more in cost or less in coverage is unconscionable.

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

Sincerely,

Sonny Cohen

[REDACTED]
Highland Park, IL 60035
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: L. Stringer [mailto:lauren.stringer@mn.gov] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony for Healthcare

To the Members of the Graham-Cassidy Hearing:

Since the Affordable Care Act was enacted, my healthcare premiums have become somewhat reasonable. Before the ACA we were paying over \$24,000 a year in premiums alone to cover our family. My husband and I are both self-employed. We 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 with nothing to replace it.

Sincerely,

Lauren Stringer
Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marlene Sinicki [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello

Having limited financial resources, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare to keep me healthy. I do not feel healthcare or lack thereof should endanger lives or create financial ruin.

Our nation was founded on principles of dignity for all. A healthcare system should not pad the pockets of the rich while creating dangerously unhealthy circumstances for people with middle or lower incomes.

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.

ACA takes into consideration the whole nation, providing access to a healthy life for all. That is a democracy. The Graham-Cassidy bill feels like corporate swindling at its worst and a death sentence for many of the most vulnerable in our society.

Sincerely,
Marlene Sinicki
San Francisco, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary O'Neil [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.

Mary O'Neil
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60640

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Mattson [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.

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.

Sandra Mattson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brockport, New York 14420

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: CLAIRE HASSID <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The ACA

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please do not give in to the pressure being applied by large donors and by the President himself to repeal the ACA. "Pleasing a base" is cowardly and not the same thing as "doing what is right."

Here are my reasons to stand firm:

- 1) I am a constituent of Virginia. I have been on the ACA since its inception and am very happy with it.
- 2) Yes, the premiums are high. But as an entrepreneur, I no longer have access to a company healthcare plan. I feel relaxed about my healthcare for the first time, especially with regard to pre-existing conditions.
- 3) I do not mind paying higher premiums if this means that the rest of the country can have access to health care insurance.
- 4) The Republican party has never once given a logical reason for repealing the ACA, nor supplied a "better plan." If they had, the country would be embracing it with open arms. (Come to think of it, this point should probably be number one on my list.)
- 5) Finally, it feels to most of us in the country who do not wish to overturn the ACA (see polls) that the only reason Congress is "going after" the program is because it was invented under the Obama administration. This is not an intelligent, worthy or dignified reason to dismantle a program that has been put in place to help the citizens of this country.

If the ACA has "problems," solve them. I know you can do this. Destruction without reason is a terrible, terrible policy.

Respectfully,

Claire Hassid
[REDACTED]

Forest Hills, NY 11375

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kerrilee Hunter [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. When my wife needed surgery for her thyroid, there was no way we could have afforded it without our insurance. Now, we worry because there was a fibroid detected on her ovary and we cannot know for certain that our healthcare will not be ripped away from us - what if she needs surgery again? What if it requires further treatment? We live in New York, where the high cost of living means that devastating health care costs endanger our ability to continue to work and contribute to our community, economically and otherwise.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is misguided. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Kerrilee Hunter
Bronxville, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Stewart <[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.

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.

Sarah Stewart
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Gardiner, Montana 59030

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sylvie Biderman <[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.

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. AS HORRENDOUS AS THE BILL IS RE "HEALTH CARE", IT IS INSULTING TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF THESE MERCENARY CRIMINAL POLITICIANS WHO HAVE DARED TO ATTACH ANOTHER HUGE TAX BREAK FOR THEIR CRIMINAL BOSSES, THE MEDICAL LOBBY! DON'T THINK THAT THE IMPUNITY YOU NOW ENJOY WILL LAST.

Sylvie Biderman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Morro Bay, Ontario M4L2E6

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peter Gunther [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 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.

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 Gunther
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60659

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Vanessa Giraldo [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 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.

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.

Vanessa Giraldo
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, New York 11213-3016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Crowell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 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.

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 Crowell
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Woodburn, Oregon 97071

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurence White [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 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.

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.

Laurence White
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Antelope, California 95616

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Virginia Witmer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability: I do all in my power with diet, exercise, 4 prescribed medications and several prescribed vitamins (not deductible) to stay healthy. My medical care is Medicare and Illinois Teachers' survivors' plan through United Health Care; my daughter is insured through her employment; my grandson is not yet 26, so is insured by his mother.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Repeal would not only raise costs for us, all of whom have reasonably good and guarded health, but would effect hardship or death on many.

I understand how corporate greed and propaganda have affected the health of many Americans. Not to have a system that educates the whole populace about diet and exercise is simply criminal as it would reduce costs to the system (amid many other desirable outcomes).

In hope,
Virginia Witmer
Chicago

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Penny Manion [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Penny Manion
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Shepherdstown , West Virginia 25443

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gayle Roth Lammers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

Graham Cassidy is the uglier, bullying cousin of the bills that have gone before it. It will prey on our most vulnerable and cause fear and stress for many.

I live in Alabama. This state, with its' poverty and political bassackwardness, cannot be trusted to manage healthcare for its' citizens.

Please, resume regular order and come to bipartisan compromise!

Sincerely,
Gaagii Lammers
Daphne, AL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Richard Gray
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60657-5926

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

Expose this tax break buried in this supposed healthcare bill. Print it in newspapers & online for people to see. This is a sham...!!! Plus, it doesn't improve healthcare.

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.

Chris Kanda
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CATHEDRAL CITY, California 92234

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Myers [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.

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.

Lori Myers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Freeport, Illinois 61032

Kevin (Finance)

From: Shari Emerson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Senate Finance Committee Meeting on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill Monday, September 25th at 2:00pm EDT

From: Shari Emerson
[REDACTED]
Lakeville, MN 55044

Represented by Congressman Jason Lewis, Senator Amy Klobuchar, and Senator Al Franken

Regarding the Senate Finance Committee Meeting on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill Monday, September 25th, 2017 at 2:00pm EDT

Members of the Committee -

I am submitting my comments for review in the upcoming hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Bill, which is meant to be voted on by September 30, 2017.

I demand, on behalf of all Americans, that the traditional order of business historically applied to the passage of significant legislation be applied to the process of this bill. If that is too demanding, I humbly request that as many hours of work be spent to overthrow the ACA as were spent in committee to pass it.

A chief complaint against the ACA was that it was rammed through the process in a hurry. For every single politician who made that complaint, I request an individual accounting of why they now support acceleration of the vote of Graham-Cassidy without a tenth of the debate conducted on the ACA.

If that individual accounting to the American Taxpayers is unacceptable to the United States Congress, I then would like to understand why it is seemingly acceptable to pursue a vote on a bill that impacts one-sixth of the US economy without knowing the costs. THIS explanation is owed by whomever cares to claim the title of 'The Party of Fiscal Responsibility'. Bear in mind, that if taxpayer dollars are being spent without a planned budget, all taxpayers should get an immediate exemption on being honest with the IRS. If the Federal Government cannot honestly report what the economic impact of a bill will be, plain logic says they are missing a major criteria in the use of taxpayer dollars. Gentlemen and Gentlewomen of Congress - I ask you - Whose. Money. Are. You. Spending?

My next point - and this, rather than the technical malfeasance noted above - is about the lives of American Citizens.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill does not guarantee protections for preexisting conditions. I come from a very large extended family. My brother died of Leukemia. Two of my uncles and one aunt has died from lung cancer. My grandfather died of prostate cancer. Two of my aunts are breast cancer survivors, but one of them contracted kidney cancer as well as having glaucoma. She, as has one of my cousins, has survived kidney cancer. My grandmother had both diabetes And colon cancer. My mother has rheumatoid arthritis. Many of my family suffer textbook anxiety. The high percentage of cancer diagnosis May be a contributing factor. I remind each and every one of you that pregnancy is designated as a pre-existing condition, turns out that all but one aunt,

and three female cousins have had children. Oh, also, if I'm still up on family updates, we have heart disease, two newer cases of glaucoma, benign breast lumps, and three physical birth defects, including one spare spleen and one missing thyroid.

This recitation of health disorders - in case the picture isn't clear - is that I can't think of one family member who will NOT be in jeopardy of raised insurance rates or insurance denials if this bill is passed. Either their own history or their own genetics - or the fact of giving birth - will impact them economically. Also, if my generation lives into our 60's, apparently Medicaid will not be available if these diseases reblossom. What on earth are they going to do? If their rates are raised now, that reduces their ability to save for retirement. If their coverage is denied, they will be bankrupted by cancer. We have enough cancer cases in our family to recognize and project the costs involved. I have been bedside now at six of those cases, in my own family. I see very, very few options except for every single one of us to pray our knees raw that we never have anything worse than a sinus infection. There are families with far worse legacies of health issues than mine. If I can project how lives could be ruined by this legislation - and not just for the patients - their children and grandchildren will spend ferocious amounts trying to fill in the blanks - how is it possible Senators Graham and Cassidy cannot?

To close - as there are many voices that must be heard - I find it incredible that the supporters of this bill have yet to offer a concrete defense that addresses my fears and concerns for all Americans, to any degree of satisfaction. It is ludicrous that American families are at the mercy of a process that prevents bipartisan inputs. I remind you all to recall how many GOP amendments were incorporated into the ACA. Over a hundred. To deny the Democrats any opportunity to represent their constituents in this process is the most bloodthirstily partisan betrayal I have witnessed in my 48 years.

Ladies and gentlemen, please introduce my comments into the record, and if nothing else, respond to this last question - how can you legislate on an issue impacting the lives of every American without ensuring that all Americans are being represented? And is that truly the "American Way"?

With sincerity and hope,

Shari Emerson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Clyde Willson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Clyde Willson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oakland, California 94606

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jo Millay [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: repealing the ACA

Repeal the ACA? Terrible and cruel idea. America says NO - is anyone in the Republican party listening? Does Congress care about the American people - or not? - Yours, Jo Millay, Surry, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Berg [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

As a registered nurse and nursing educator, I know how well the ACA works for the American people. Please oppose the graham Cassidy bill.

Debbie Berg
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Marcos, California 92069

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KEVIN DESMOND [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal:
Sept 25, 2017

RE:
Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal Monday, September 25, 2017

Dear Folks,
The Affordable Care Act has brought health care insurance to millions of Americans for the first time.
The ACA needs to be improved through bi-partisan legislation via addendum(s) or amendments.
The "Graham-Cassidy" proposal should not be supported.

Thank you,
Kevin Desmond

[REDACTED]
Girdwood, Alaska
99587

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tracey Eller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing.

I and my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Myself and my family members with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, and disabilities, etc. need affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Tracey Eller

Easthampton, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Safini Convey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill

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

Sincerely,
Safini Convey
Los Angeles, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marlo Rosenau

Minneapolis, MN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Matthew Ashmore [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:40 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.

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.

Matthew Ashmore
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Birmingham, Alabama 35235

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristin Dolci [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

I have family members who rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA provided critical care for my mother in law. She was diagnosed with ALS. Living in KY as a farmer, although she spent her life working hard, my mother in law didn't make much money. Over the past year and a half, I watched her dwindle away. Without the support of the ACA, she would not have been provided with the small comforts that helped her endure this devastating disease.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Congress should protect, not hurt, our citizens.

Sincerely,

Kristin Dolcimascolo

Northampton, MA

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Toriello [redacted] <[redacted]@toriello.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:40 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.

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.

Michael Toriello
[redacted]
[redacted]

New York City, New York 10036

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Zamm [REDACTED]g>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:40 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.

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.

There are many good ideas for improving the current healthcare law that have been proposed by the bipartisan governors group led by governors Kasich and Hickenlooper, several groups in the House of

Representatives including the bipartisan Problem Solver Caucus and the New Democrats Coalition and by the bipartisan effort developed in Senator Lamar Alexander's Senate committee. I urge Congress to integrate some of these ideas into a bipartisan approach to healthcare rather than to support the divisive Graham-Cassidy bill.

It's also inappropriate to give wealthy corporations a tax cut when it will lead to a loss of healthcare for millions of Americans.

I urge the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham- Cassidy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Zamm

Michael Zamm

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of Washington

New York, New York 10040

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Phyllis Schalet [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:40 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.

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.

Phyllis Schalet
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Great Neck, New York 11021

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sally Marone [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:11 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.

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.

Sally Marone
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Livermore, California 94550

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pam Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: keep the ACA !!!

This nation 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,

Pam Nelson

Cambridge, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Davier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop Graham-Cassidy

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a two time cancer survivor, my wife has a genetic heart condition, my sister suffers from depression and my mother who is 85 years old suffers from a variety of physical ailments. None of us would be able to find or afford healthcare if Graham-Cassidy is passed. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please stop this heinous bill and put the interests of the American people ahead of tax breaks for the rich.

Marybeth Napier

[REDACTED]

Evanston, IL 60202

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tammy bullock [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:09 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.

tammy bullock
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
el cajon, California 92021

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Yvonne [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Dear United States Senate,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare in order to survive and thrive. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill that is currently being considered by the Senate. Our story with affordability is that we are hard-working American citizens who work 6 days a week, on average, yet are barely able to afford healthcare. I am a teacher and am fortunate to have a reasonable premium for my healthcare, yet my parents, who earn even less than me, do not. They are a cook and housecleaner who have had to go without healthcare in the past despite the fact that they are in dire need of it due to their cardiovascular health and diabetes. Thanks to the ACA, my parents were able to find a healthcare plan that, while not 100% perfect, kept my dad alive after he had to have a stent placed in his artery. The ACA is not perfect, but it is a better option for my parents and other Americans than the Graham-Cassidy bill or no healthcare plan at all. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA and make healthcare more affordable for all. Please do not repeal the ACA in favor of this bill which will leave many families unable to afford survival.

Thank you,
Yvonne Miranda
Canyon Country, CA
M.Ed. | Curriculum & Instruction
AVHSD | Humanities Teacher

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Helen Thorington [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:09 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.

Helen Thorington
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Roslindale, MA, Massachusetts 02131

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wayne Kleeman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:09 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.

Wayne Kleeman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bella Vista, AR, Arkansas 72715

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Molly Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: My submission of public testimony for the Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

I and my family rely on quality, affordable health care. There is virtually no one in my family who does not have some pre-existing condition, and we and all Americans should not be penalized for having gotten sick in the past.

An effective government should help make health care more affordable, not less affordable. Our country will be stronger when we (and you all) help solve this problem -- and not when you make it worse.

The ACA is not perfect, but it's a start. I understand and respect that there are concerns on both sides of the aisle. Please find a way to work together (and not try to bypass the "other side") to come up with a bipartisan plan that will improve the ACA and lead our country and its citizens to a better place.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Molly Martin
Tiburon, Calif.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Jablonsky <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

Hi Committee,

In general me, my family, friends and anyone I know or anyone who lives in America relies on or requires quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Specifically, so many I know are retired or entrepreneurs or unemployed and are paying for their own healthcare. Many have pre-existing conditions or disabilities. Personally, I work for a big company and have great insurance. I'm blessed this way. Truly. But my industry is fickle, my job could be eliminated tomorrow. In fact I've been on COBRA at least 2x due to the loss of my job.

When speaking with my primary care physician about this health insurance crisis in America, he said something like: "It's no wonder you are stressed out and can't sleep. You are terrified because this would affect you in a terrible way. You can lose your job any time, which you have in the past because of your industry, and you are a woman of a certain age. You have breathing issues, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and you've had cancer. What would happen to you without insurance? It would bankrupt you and possibly kill you. Yeah, you should be terrified". My doctor said that to me! Terrifying!

So PLEASE I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. PLEASE work together! I implore you. I beg you. For the sake of all that is good and holy, please improve the lives of all American's by improving the ACA. PLEASE.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jablonsky

New York, NY

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Dolcourt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: Reed, Jessa (Hatch); Browning, Dianne (Hatch); Portman, Stuart (Hatch)
Cc: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy health reform bill

Dear Jessa,

I am very concerned about the impact the Graham-Cassidy health reform bill would have on people with disabilities. The very real possibility that states could waive required coverage for pre-existing conditions and erode the essential medical benefits available under the Affordable Care Act, make Graham-Cassidy bad for people with disabilities.

Senator Hatch has always looked out for the best interests of people with disabilities. I hope the good Senator will consider the Hippocratic oath that instructs physicians "to do no harm" when he votes on this legislation. This bill will harm the very people Senator Hatch has protected throughout his career.

Sincerely,
Joyce Dolcourt, Past-Chair

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Harold Crow [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Harold Crow
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary Lou DeFino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 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. Mary Lou DeFino

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Staten [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and 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,

Pat Staten
Banning, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacquelyn Pope [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on access to quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I have been fortunate to avoid serious illness and accidents, but as we approach 60 we have more cause to visit doctors--hardly an unusual situation. This bill would penalize people just for aging! Our daughter was diagnosed with asthma when she was two years old. She will always need medication. People with chronic conditions do not deserve to be penalized simply on that basis.

I have had health insurance and not had health insurance, and know very well how difficult it is to consult any practitioner without being able to prove up front that you have adequate coverage.

I never hear Congress mention the financial instability, insecurity and anxiety of millions of Americans whose health would improve enormously if we did not have to worry constantly about losing access to needed services..

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

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Pope

Oak Park IL

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kim [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

I rely on quality, affordable health care as do the clients I work with.

We all depend on healthcare without the discrimination of being penalized for a pre-existing condition, a disability, and a low income.

There needs to be a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Health Bill.

The effort cannot be based on Congressional egos and who wins. This kind of attitude will only make the American people lose.

This must not pass!

Sincerely,

Thela Murphey, RN

Vista, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mario Bica [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill its impact on individuals with brain injury

To the Honorable Senators on the Senate Finance Committee,
As much as I believe the ACA is a disaster, I also believe that the Great Senators of this Country can pass this bill...or a similar bill...in quick fashion. Even so, I ask that you provide an option to protect the citizens of this Nation with Brain Injuries. It is almost impossible for these citizens to advocate for themselves because of the effects of their traumas. I ask that you add some sort of verbiage that protects folks suffering from brain injury to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without this, the good citizens with brain injuries will have no where else to go in assisting them for payment of their medical bills. I am happy to assist in writing the additional verbiage and I have included my phone number below.

I have personally been affected by this nefarious injury and I can tell you that it is a living hell. You can add to that living hell by forcing citizens that have cognitive troubles advocating for themselves, I hope that you see this as a recipe for disaster. I ask you not to take the easy way out, I ask you to modify the bill to include provisions for these citizens. California and many other states have taken the easy way out by excluding cognitive issues from Workers Compensation. Without your help, these citizens will have no where to go.

Respectfully yours,
Mario Bica
[redacted]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

To whom it may concern

I wish I could rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I had breast cancer and incurable and intense diarrhea (for over a year) which nearly killed me. My medical needs were high and am a low-medium income person (worked hard my entire life, am 60 now) and a large part of my income is going toward my healthcare insurance. I have a grandfathered plan that I can barely afford.

I hesitated to get Obamacare until after the election last November, because I wanted to be sure the ACA is here to stay and I will not be stuck with cancer, and you withdrawing support for people with preexisting conditions or making it inaccessible and un-affordable or useless in other ways.

It is a shame that in America we cannot take care of ALL citizens health at a reasonable cost. Most other Western countries, and even some developing countries, are quite successful at it.

Instead of serving big corporations, pharma industry and the rich, you should use your position to actually help improve American citizens lives, and not make millions of people suffer!

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

Sincerely,
Tatjana Kopp
Oakland, CA

Tatjana Kopp
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tel: 510 854 6266

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanie Bell [mailto:jeaniebell@att.net]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom it may Concern,

Everyone deserves quality, affordable healthcare. A number of people in my family have Type 1 diabetes and their future care may be in jeopardy due to this preexisting condition. 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,

Jeanette T. Bell

Aptos, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maura Tumulty [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill...

I have relied on quality, affordable health care to bring two children into the world safely in hospitals. I didn't have to risk a home birth because I couldn't afford the 'maternity coverage' extra fee that health plans used to be allowed to impose.

Those children both have asthma diagnoses in their medical charts, meaning they could be forced to pay high premiums for the rest of their lives unless protection for pre-existing conditions is maintained.

We will all get sick in ways we cannot anticipate; we may get in a car accident that was completely not our fault. The whole point of insurance is to put everyone *in one large pool* so costs can be spread across people and across time.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for all these reasons. I would support bipartisan efforts to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Maura Tumulty

Hamilton, NY

--
Maura Tumulty
Associate Professor of Philosophy
[REDACTED]
Colgate University
Hamilton NY 13346
U.S.A.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Steeves [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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.

George Steeves
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Van Nuys, California 91411

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Reed Fenton [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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.

Reed Fenton
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lake Balboa, California 91406

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Justine Serino [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy

The American people deserve 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,

Justine Serino

Chicago, Illinois

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Najemy [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 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 Najemy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Albany, New York 12203

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Seth Tubman [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 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.

Seth Tubman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Scottsville, New York 14546

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Timothy Laroe [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 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.

Timothy Laroe
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

fair oaks, California 95628

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paulette Tansey [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 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.

Paulette Tansey
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Diego, California 92110

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dorene Higgins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 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.

Dorene Higgins

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carmen Gagne [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 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.

Carmen Gagne
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Watsonville, California 95076

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tamara Matz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Tamara Matz
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California 90016

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Janet Ashford's laptop [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: health care for all

Dear Senators,

I have Medicare, thank goodness, but my low-income adult daughter and her 6-year-old son rely on Medicaid for their health care. On behalf of them, and everyone in our country who needs health care, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Janet Isaacs Ashford
Mendocino, California
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Barolsky [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 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.

Deborah Barolsky
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] St
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Constituent Comments Against Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Proposal

To the honorable members of the Committee:

My immediate family depends on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) for health insurance and care. We are in the 55-64 age group. When the ACA was enacted, we made our life plans based on the new availability of health insurance through that act. Because of pre-existing conditions common among people our age, we could not previously qualify for health insurance on the open market.

The ACA has worked excellently for us. To have the guarantee of health insurance through the ACA yanked out from under us would be devastating and possibly ruinous financially.

Graham-Cassidy does not provide any iron-clad guarantee of insurance protection against pre-existing conditions exclusions by insurance companies. It also creates a 50-state chock-a-block of insurance plans that would more than Balkanize our entire health insurance system and penalize people in different states, depending on their healthcare needs. That would be devastating to the health of Americans and we can see why insurance companies and medical and healthcare organizations have come out strongly against Graham-Cassidy. It is also not popular with Americans, according to reputable polling, who give it support in the low 30 percent area, while the ACA is backed by a clear majority of Americans, about 55% (most recent Washington Post poll).

I urge the Senate and House to work in a bipartisan manner to strengthen and further stabilize the existing ACA that so many of us desperately depend upon, just like social security. Taking away the ACA in favor of Graham-Cassidy is like taking away Social Security. Our life plans have been made based on both laws and it would be a national tragedy to take away the benefits of either, affecting millions upon millions of Americans throughout all 50 states.

Respectfully and sincerely submitted,

Hal Reed
South Windsor, CT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith Scarborough [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Objections to the Graham-Cassidy Health Plan

Hello!

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am on Medicare, but other members of my family rely on affordable healthcare to stay healthy. Please work with colleagues from all parties, women and men included, to improve the Affordable Care Act (and you could include some of the medical professionals who helped craft the ACA, and have expressed interest in working to improve it!) I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Judith M. Scarborough

Los Angeles, California

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough. ~
Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the United States of America

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Schwartz [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please say NO to Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

I ask that you not approve the Graham-Cassidy healthcare legislation. As an individual with employer-provided healthcare, I am one of the lucky ones in our system. I do not stand to lose something immediately because of this legislation. However, even a fortunate person like myself will lose in the long-term.

If this legislation repeals the individual mandate, multiple experts have found that the cost of all insurance, including employer-provided plans, would go up. (<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/07/25/upshot/skinny-obamacare-repeal-would-clash-with-republicans-health-care-promises.html>) I or someone in my family could develop pre-existing condition and my insurance rates could go through the roof, leading to financial hardship for myself and my family.

That leaves aside the fact that I am not simply looking out for myself in this matter--many of my fellow citizens stand to have their healthcare ripped away from them as you phase out funding for state block grants over the next 10 years.

And this leaves aside the fact that, even if you believe that these steps are the correct ones to take for our citizens and our economy, there has been no reasonable process to review this legislation. There is no full CBO score. There will be no committee hearings. I would quote to you the words of your colleague, Senator John McCain: "As I have repeatedly stressed, health care reform legislation ought to be the product of regular order in the Senate. Committees of jurisdiction should mark up legislation with input from all committee members, and send their bill to the floor for debate and amendment. That is the only way we might achieve bipartisan consensus on lasting reform, without which a policy that affects one-fifth of our economy and every single American family will be subject to reversal with every change of administration and congressional majority."

Please, do not let this bill come to a vote before the full Senate. If the bill does come up for a vote, I ask that you vote against it.

Sincerely,
James T. Schwartz

[REDACTED]
Oak Park, IL 60301

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Fran Schmidt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:50 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.

Fran Schmidt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
La Jolla, California 92037

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Diana Washburn [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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.

Diana Washburn

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Leominster, Massachusetts 01453

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Charles Alger [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 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.

Charles Alger
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lahaina, Hawaii 96761-1220

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: david levenson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:18 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.

david levenson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

san carlos, California 94070

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tom Corro [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:59 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO and Oppose the GOP Healthcare bill

Please for the sake of me and my fellow citizens Vote NO and Oppose the GOP Healthcare bill.

Tom Corron

[REDACTED]
Fort Wayne IN 46815

[REDACTED]
Mobile - (317) 743-2000

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: James Lancaster [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 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.

James Lancaster
[REDACTED]
Lincoln, CA 95648
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Parent <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I speak both for myself and millions of others when I implore you to vote AGAINST the Graham Cassidy Bill. Most people my age (60) and millions younger have a preexisting condition and the the thought of being denied or priced out of the insurance market is terrify!

All our lives my husband and I have worked, had insurance, diligently saved for our retirement. Ten years ago, out of the blue, I was diagnosed with an autoimmune which completely changed my/our lives.

Now as we approach retirement we fear that what we'd hoped would be a pleasant existence may actually become a nightmare.

I ask that you think beyond political ideology and put the health and welfare of Americans first.

Thank you,

Nancy Parent

[REDACTED]
Ludlow, MA 01056

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: John Gourlie [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.

John Gourlie
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Guilford, CT, Connecticut 06437

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Andrea Stryer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 5:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: oppose Granham-Cassidy bill

Were I not now on Medicare, I would rely on quality and affordable healthcare. Younger members of the family and of my community now rely on it. I urge you to oppose the Graham Cassidy bill.
We do not need more people to suffer because of lack of access. Work together for a bipartisan effort to improve what we already have!

Sincerely,
Andrea Stryer

Stanford
California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Katrina Tennis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:55 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: The Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Please, for god's sake, do not let this malevolent bill go through! What in the world makes you think that depriving millions of Americans of affordable healthcare is "pro-life"? How dare the GOP try to ram through a bill without a proper budget review, with only 90 seconds of debate! Are the republican supporters of this bill so scared of losing their financing from the Koch Brothers, because they'll do what's right for Americans and their country? Shame!
So glad to hear Sen. McCain won't support it, but way too many still do want to "repeal" without a proper replacement that won't sink the economy and endanger the lives of so many. Thanks for considering one citizen's opinion.

Katrina Tennis
Zip 10011.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lynn Havemann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017 Lynn Havemann
610 S. Prospect Ave.
Madison, WI 53711

My 18 year old daughter, Claire, is social and funny and loving and stubborn and beloved by her family and classmates and friends. She also has an intellectual disability and significant developmental delay and a complex medical history. She was born full term but with a number of birth anomalies that kept her in the NICU (the hospital) for 4 months. She came home with a trach, ventilator, g-tube and a cadre of medical equipment and nursing care. From the very beginning of her life, medicaid has been essential to her and our family. It has supplemented our primary insurance coverage of her medical needs but also paid for her therapies (most primary insurances do not cover these habilitative interventions). Medicaid has supported our family with a case manager to help us manage all of Claire's needs. Medicaid has paid for respite so that my husband and I can get a break and be better equipped to be the best parents to Claire that we can be. Medicaid has helped keep Claire out of the hospital (a huge savings to the tax payer). It helps supplement her public school supports, pays for her care during the summer months so that I don't have to quit my job. Medicaid will continue to be essential for Claire and our family as she grows older—to help fund job coaches and transportation so that she can work in the community and pay taxes and be a full citizen.

I know that it is not a cheap program but the community of disabled advocates know that it is essential and in the long run saves the tax payers countless dollars—medicaid supports programs that allow people with disabilities to work (and pay taxes!) instead of being a drain on taxpayers by living in nursing homes and/or hospitals.

There are definitely complex issues with the healthcare system that need to be tackled. I urge Congress to tackle these problems from a bipartisan perspective, starting first with the high medical costs from from corporations like drug companies and insurance companies.

Don't devastate my daughter's life and my family's life by cutting medicaid. Be champions of the elderly, the frail, the disabled and save medicaid.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shawn Hirabayashi [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:48 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Last year I was diagnosed with a kidney stone. It would not pass. After six months of debilitating attacks, my urologist recommended a laser lithotripsy, which, fortunately, did the trick. Without Medicaid I could not have afforded one visit to my urologist, let alone paid for the operation. Or, rather, I would still be paying off the visits and the operation, and would be doing so indefinitely. Dealing with health issues should not cripple one economically. Which is exactly what would have happened before the ACA and what will happen if you pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please do not do so. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please.

Sincerely,
Shawn Hirabayashi
Berkeley, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Till <info@actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:37 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I legally vote in EVERY election!

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.

Paul Till

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Indianapolis, Indiana 46237

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: BJ Hance [mailto:bjhance@ghman.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:51 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family, friends and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. As a result, I oppose this bill. It is clear that this is a partisan effort by Republicans, with pressure from the President, to repeal the ACA simply because it was created in the previous administration. This is NOT following the will of the people of the United States! I vehemently oppose using vulnerable citizens--i.e., every non-billionaire who has a body that will at some point need medical attention--as pawns in your sad games.

Sincerely
BJ Hance
Healdsburg, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Armughan Javaid [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Pre-existing conditions

Hello,

Graham-Cassidy does not for sure cover pre-existing conditions. Why are the authors and POTUS lying about it and trying to rush this before a CBO vote?

Please vote against Graham/Cassidy. Thank tou Senator McCain!

Armughan Javaid
Clifton, VA

Sent from my mobile device; please excuse any typos.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kristin Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham

Dear Senators and Finance Committee,

Please do not pass the Cassidy Graham Bill. It is irresponsible as elected officials. You haven't listened to the medical community, completely the proper research and vetting, or given the people a real chance to voice their concerns. This is not proper order. This is not proper order. THIS IS NOT PROPER ORDER. This affects all of us and could do serious damage to both our healthcare system and our economy. Please don't pass this bill.

Kristin Jensen
Small Business Owner
Ankeny, Iowa

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Judith May [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

After removing myself from Federal Disability, I was denied coverage for having a pre-existing condition. The coverage I could find was prohibitively expensive.

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

Sincerely,

Judith May

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jenny Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Respectfully oppose GC bill

Dear Honorable Senate Members,

My family and I, like all Americans, depend on affordable and quality healthcare. For this reason, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I'm particularly concerned about the push to eliminate essential health care services like maternity coverage, as I am currently pregnant with my first child. I can't even contemplate the stress of having to wonder if my health plan will cover maternity care. This should be a non-negotiable for any health care plan. Additionally, my extended family depends on the ACA for coverage for mental health care and for protection for pre-existing conditions. My parents have both worked extremely hard their entire lives, and during a period of under-employment during the recession, they were unable to afford healthcare due to pre-existing conditions. They went without healthcare for two years until the ACA made healthcare affordable and accessible for them. I was afraid for them all the time until the ACA passed and they finally had healthcare again. Finally, one of my family members has depression and nearly dropped out of college a few years ago. Thanks to mental health care services covered by the ACA, he was able to afford and access treatment, successfully graduate, and is currently thriving and employed at a top-name tech company in the Bay area. My family and so many other Americans have benefited from the ACA and the common sense health care protections that it enacted. Please don't take away our healthcare!

Americans are depending on you to come together and work on a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not to repeal it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lee
Pasadena, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Damita O'Dell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

How can the greatest country on Earth be run by people who fight tooth and nail every few months to take away healthcare from it's citizens? Does promoting general welfare not include clean air, water, food, shelter and healthcare for all citizens? If govt is only concerned about defense of our country and not the concerns of it's people then there is nothing to defend. Taking away our healthcare will be giving some of us a short time to live without medical attention for chronic conditions. Please don't say that we can help cure disease in other countries but can't take care of our own. PLEASE don't pass this horrible bill. Thanks for your consideration.

Damita O'Dell

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jamie Phelps [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Jamie Phelps
Benbrook, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brian Morris [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH Bill

Bad bill. Do not pass. Would hurt millions.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Conor Darken [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the market stability 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.

[Conor Darken]
[Wesley Chapel, FL]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Keenan-Mudrick [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Importance: High

Dear members of the Senate,

I am writing this letter to express tremendous concern about the risk of devastating impact of the Graham-Cassidy bill. I work with children and adults who experience developmental disabilities in Oregon, and if this bill were to pass, our services, already grossly underfunded, would be additionally, severely cut, resulting in many very vulnerable citizens being either without services altogether, or with far less than they currently have, putting their health and safety further at risk. We already struggle with incredibly stretched and further dwindling resources. Reforming our current health care system should not come at the cost of further harm to our most vulnerable citizens. Please vote NO on this bill! Many of us are very open to thoughtful changes to the existing ACA, but this, again, is not that. Please allow for appropriate time and vetting to fix things! Thank you so much for your consideration and your support.

Most Sincerely, Anna Keenan-Mudrick, MSW, Executive Director of Community Access Services, and sibling of a brother who experiences developmental disabilities...and daughter of two boomers who may need the ACA for supports as they age, after many years of their own contributions as a RN, and as a Social Worker.

Most Sincerely,

Anna Keenan-Mudrick, MSW
Executive Director



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Beaverton, OR 97006
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: TEST [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee;

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.

Laurie Wanser

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: April Powell-Willingham [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GrahamCassidyI

Do not gut or repeal Obamacare. It would be unconscionable, unless you are going to enact single payer.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Shana Metsch [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 11:10 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill, please vote NO

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Medicaid is the ONLY insurance or program that covers long-term services and supports which provide daily assistance to people with disabilities to enable them to survive and live in and contribute to the community. These services are called Home and Community-Based Services. The current Graham Cassidy bill would result in tens of millions Americans losing coverage.

We are very concerned that the Graham Cassidy Bill would put children with disabilities at risk of losing critical health care benefits & being able to remain in a community setting. It hits home for us since our daughter requires extensive coverage to continue in her homebound setting. Without the continuation of her current services, our daughter, Hannah would be a risk of institutionalization along with millions of other children with special needs.

If our daughter were not able to continue community home-based services, she would not be able to access her medical and educational treatments leading to deterioration and possibly death.

Please vote NO on the Graham Cassidy bill that has been put in front of you. Millions of lives depend on how you decide to vote.

Best,

Shana Metsch
[REDACTED]
Princeville, HI 96722
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Josh Fyman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:20 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: 20170919_192107.jpg

Joshua Fyman
[REDACTED]

West Hempstead, NY 11552

Re:
Hearing to Consider Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Propisal, 09/25/17

Dear Chairman and every of the Committee,

I am writing to urge you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill in question poses so many dangers to Americans that I cannot list them all in the space allotted.

For me in particular, the drastic and shocking cuts to Medicaid are of particular interest. You see, I am not writing strictly on behalf but as a voice for a little girl who can't speak for herself. That beautiful little girl is my daughter Penny, pictured in the attachment. She is six years old and is the dearest thing in the world to me.

When my wife was pregnant with Penny, we were told at an ultrasound that Penny had an abnormality in her corpus callosum. The doctors told us that the impact on Penny could range from moderate to severe. We desperately wanted our little girl and went ahead with the pregnancy, praying all the while for the best. Alas, the best was not to be. As a newborn, Penny was diagnosed with Aicardi Syndrome. Her variety of it left her with intractable epilepsy, inability to control her limbs (i.e. walk, sit up, roll over, pretty much any controlled movements), inability to talk, severe intellectual disability, and other complications that would unfold later. Such complications include and inability to eat and thus a need for a feeding tube and a tendency to lose oxygen in her sleep and whenever she has the slightest respiratory infection, thus necessitating supplemental oxygen.

If I painted a bleak picture, frankly, it us. Without extensive and around-the-clock medical care, Penny would be far worse off. In fact, if we are being brutally honest, she would likely not be alive. Three years ago, after Penny spent large stretches of a year in the PICU, we made the hardest decision of our life and moved Penny to a pediatric long care facility nearby. Yes, to save Penny, we moved the most precious person on Earth to us out of our home into a facility that could care for her and keep her alive.

And thank God we did. Instead of severe oxygen deficiencies, she is overseen by an expert medical staff who detect problems early on and intervene. As she grows, she has people and equipment who can move her, lift her, bathe her, dress her, feed her, administer respiratory therapy, and take care of her activities of daily living. She has school in the building to reduce her exposure to infectious agents. She is not simply alive. She has a life. With dignity, and joy, and meaning.

Penny's continued life and quality of life are only possible because of Medicaid. I know what the proposed bill. Neither I nor my fellow special needs advocates buy that our states are going to get mire "flexibility" or "options" with these draconian block grants. We know what that term means. Cuts. Deep cuts. Capping the

amount of money that states will have to spend on the care of their most vulnerable citizens. Tell us please how this makes sense. How is it not right to provide whatever money is needed to care for the sick instead of picking an arbitrary number and turning off the spigot to people like Penny after that magic number is reached?

All 50 state Medicaid directors have rejected this bill and urged you to reject it too. Is the Medicaid directors of every state say that your plan will harm them, how can you possibly look us in the eye with a straight face and tell us that you are doing this in the best interests of the states? We're smarter than you give us credit for and we see this for what it is.

Medicaid touches everybody in this country. Everybody. Everybody knows a child on Medicaid, or someone in poverty, or an individual with disabilities, or a senior citizen in a nursing home. When you tear apart the Medicaid safety net the way you are trying to do right now, you are sending loved ones of every American into a dire and dangerous situation. There is a reason that every medical advocacy group, every Medicaid director, and even insurance companies realize that this bill will hurt American healthcare from every angle possible.

Penny is not an anecdote. She is a representative for millions of Americans who are in situations just as urgent. Not a single member of your committee has been able to explain how this disastrous bill will somehow not harm her and the other millions severely.

God bless Senator Chuck Grassley. Of all the Senators trying to spin this farce last week, he told the truth. He said that there are more than 10 good reasons not to vote for this bill and simply one reason to support it, and that is because the GOP needed to get a repeal passed. He further said that it is about political, not substantive considerations. How simultaneously refreshing to hear such candor and sickening to have confirmed what we all suspected. This is a rush job meant to provide political cover.

Penny is not a political pawn. Millions of Americans are not a pawn sacrifice in your political game. These are real lives that will be devastated with this bill.

Committee members, I beg you. Resist this sick political pressure and step back from the precipice of passing this awful, cruel legislation. History will remember you for it and those millions of Americans like my Penny will thank you for it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Brett Rogerson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comment on Graham-Cassidy

Obamacare helped me afford insurance that let me get the medication I need to be able to get to work every day. It paid for the therapy and testing to diagnose my autism. It even paid for the glasses that let me drive my own car. The ACA is imperfect and needs to be improved, but you cannot do that by obliterating what is in place. Please, PLEASE do not pass this. Millions would suffer needlessly. Thank you for your time. ~Brett

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lisa Emerling [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No Repeal - Bipartisan Health care

To the Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son, who soon will be, 26 and need to cover his own medical costs, and I both have pre-existing conditions. Our diseases have required lots of expensive tests, that will continue throughout our lives. In addition I was hit by a truck while stopped in traffic in the freeway years ago. The cost of my treatments have been significant. We are fortunate, we have good medical insurance. We would have been sunk without it

All the members of Congress have excellent health coverage too. It is unconscionable that any member of Congress should believe they have the right to good health insurance at the taxpayer expense and other citizens don't - that they want to take insurance away from people and not provide it to those who don't have it.

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

Sincerely,
Lisa Emerling
Mill Creek, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: tim sprague [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

ATTN: All Senate including Sen.Collins.

My 82 yo mother, from Maine, will pay about \$16,000 more per year.

She will have to sell her home.

Please create a bipartisan bill.

Tim Sprague
Machias, Maine

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carla S Reinstadtler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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. It is evident that none of the leading health care organizations are in favor of this bill. Please do not allow such an important issue be rushed for the wrong reasons.

Carla Reinstadtler
Brick, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denzler, Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Dear members of Congress,

I find it appalling that you would criticize an 18 month long process to pass the ACA as too quick, but are so eager to pass something you can claim as repeal and replace that you would throw all of your principles of good governance aside. Not one of you supposed "conservatives" can honestly say this bill is the best thing for your constituents. You are only following what your masters, the Koch brothers, have told you to do. You have become un-principled slaves to their money. Throwing your "Christian" values away for a few shekels. Shame on anyone who votes affirmative on this bill.

Michael Denzler

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: David Marshall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

No informed voter wants this abomination to pass, and everyone will remember the pain you inflicted on their family and friends if it does.

Don't even.

David Marshall
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anthony Fournier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: ACA

To whom it may concern:

My family depends on affordable healthcare, and the ACA changed my life for the better. A member of my immediate family might not be here without it, as she has a degenerative condition and relies on the ACA to stay alive.

As such, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Please know that I fully support any bipartisan effort to improve the ACA and extend its coverage to more people at even lower costs, if that becomes an option. I do not support any efforts to repeal it, nor to replace it.

Health care is a right for all Americans, not a privilege.

Thank you for your time,

Anthony Fournier

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda C Daniels [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2017 10:53 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To Finance Committee:

Please oppose this bill!. It will deny coverage to low income, disabled, children and many others who now have insurance coverage. It does not protect preexisting conditions or essential conditions, including mental health.. As a mental health provider in a state that wisely accepted Medicaid expansion, it would be devastating to many of my patients. It would probably push many providers in this poor state out of business, thus increasing unemployment. If in the future protections are reinstated, treatment will not be available.

This is a horrible travesty. It is perpetrated by big money to benefit the rich and by senators who expect to benefit from wealthy donors and do not care about their constituents.

Do NOT let this bill become law!!!!

Linda C Daniels, PhD
Clinical Psychologist
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Susan Carfora
North Las Vegas, NV

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcia A. Ellison [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:26 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Marcia A. Ellison, Ph.D.
Subject: Graham-Cassidy "Health Care" Bill

Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. In by-passing the regular order of our United States Senate, in refusing to allow for input from Democrats, in refusing to request or allow input from women senators, in spurning the democratic process, this bill — as well as its promoters, Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, Senators Graham and Cassidy — does violence to our social institutions and our social fabric. More concretely, this bill creates undue hardship for American people who are not wealthy. Millions will lose their health care coverage. Millions more will not be able to afford treatment or preventive care. Millions of the elderly, the disabled, those living with chronic health conditions, and our children will suffer -- and many will die — due to this ill-considered partisan bill.

There is no sound moral or socio-economic reason for this rushed, unmarked bill to be pushed through -- other than enmity, craven self-interests (the threat of loss of campaign funding from big donors) and a blithe disregard, disdain and contempt for the American public. The GOP-dominated Senate must be drawn-up short, called out, and redirected. We, as a democracy, are in danger of losing our most cherished foundation: the challenge of forging bi-partisan legislation. Legislation that is contentious and hard-won, but just. This bill is none of that. It is a tepid, last-ditch, last minute effort to meet a false deadline and score a cheap ideological "win." It diminishes us. And it endangers us, individually, for those most vulnerable, and collectively, as a nation.

Please reject this bill and insist that the Senate respect and return to regular order. The Senate HELP bill may provide an opening for a bi-partisan rapprochement. Regardless, the boys-only, secret-meeting, bill-hiding, partisan behavior must be checked. Its immaturity aside, it does violence to our most sacred ideals and practices. It takes a sloppy short-cut, refusing to do the hard work required of any democracy, the willingness to slog through a messy, difficult, open process of negotiation, of finding common ground, of crafting just legislation to promote and protect the greater good. This is who we are: This is our democratic process and ideal. This bill savages both and our bonds. I urge you to soundly reject it and the behavior it exemplifies.

Thank you for reviewing and considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcia A. Ellison, Ph.D.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lori Merish [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: public comments for Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Title of Hearing: Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing
Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017
Lori Merish
[REDACTED], El Cerrito California 94530

Comment:

I am truly appalled that we are at this point, and that something so vitally important to the American people in our everyday lives is being rammed through so quickly for clearly partisan political reasons, *without a CBO score and without public debate*. WE DON'T WANT this bill--all major healthcare organizations are against it, and it's far less popular than "Obamacare" with ALL voters, Democrat and Republicans; we KNOW THAT IT GIVES US FAR LESS SECURITY than what we have now. We can all agree that there are problems with the ACA, but LET'S FIX the problems--we Americans WANT THE BIPARTISAN COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE ITS WORK TO IMPROVE THE ACA.

I am a college professor, but I grew up in a working-class town; and while my family have been frustrated by the ACA (high premiums for small business owners) they FAR PREFER the ACA to throwing this back to the states, who are ill equipped to create health care systems in 2 years, and removing ALL OF THE GUARANTEES AND PROTECTIONS (e.g., for people with pre-existing conditions) that the ACA put in place.

Please do not pass this. It will NOT make American great--it will make Americans insecure and do damage to our nation's unity and prosperity. We are COUNTING on you to do what is right, for all of us, rich and poor, sick and healthy.

Sincerely,
Lori Merish

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elaine R Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:25 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop trying to take away healthcare!

Again and again, the GOP tries to take away healthcare from millions of people! Obamacare is far from perfect, but it eliminated bad practices by insurance companies and gave access to coverage. Now, instead of trying to fix or improve, the only intent is to strike coverage! Stop trying to take away healthcare from people by these types of bills!! Both sides should work together instead of trying to drive these types of bills through. Literally, removing healthcare will kill people. That isn't right! Save our healthcare, fix it, don't remove it!

Thank you,
Elaine

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edie Hinds [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

I have many friends and relatives who have pre-existing conditions and currently have adequate health insurance. If the ACA is repealed most of these people would not be eligible to sign up for affordable coverage or may not even be eligible for any coverage due to those pre-existing conditions. Unfortunately, many people in that same position do not realize this impact if the ACA is repealed.

As a Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) volunteer Medicare counselor for Benton County, I see so many people who would be in dire circumstances if they did not have their Medicaid and Medicare coverage. For citizens under the age of 65, losing health insurance coverage by way of ineligibility due to pre-existing conditions or not being able to afford coverage or health services because of loss of Medicaid assistance would be devastating for many people. Repealing the ACA could have this affect on our citizens.

I've heard from friends in other states where Medicaid expansion was not accepted. These friends are paying outrageous health insurance premiums in comparison to our state where Medicaid expansion was accepted.

I would like to see bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,
Edie Hinds
Corvallis, Oregon

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Metier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:24 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

Title Of Hearing: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

Amy L. Metier

[REDACTED], CO 80302

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly urge you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill tomorrow.

This bill would be a devastating blow to anyone on Medicaid, with a pre-existing condition and or disabilities.

The AMA, American Psychiatric Association, American Public Health Association, Federation of American Hospitals, American Academy of Pediatrics, Association of American Medical Colleges and other many other medical associations are all strongly AGAINST the measure.

The effects of this bill would destabilize insurance markets and decrease access to affordable coverage and care. People would be at the mercy of local state politics. Small businesses would loose tax credits and cost-sharing reductions.

Please consider the American people -- the AVERAGE American citizen, in not passing this bill. Please look beyond re-election and think of the future of millions of Americans. Please take time to carefully consider the wide repercussions of this bill beyond the next four years.

Very truly yours

An average citizen who cares about my fellow citizens and the future of this country.

Amy Metier

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller and re-consider the bipartisan bill of the Senate HELP Committee.

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.

If this G-C-H travesty passes my husband and I will become seniors with several of those pesky pre-existing conditions. Our insurance costs will escalate as our retirement income is fixed. Our children will struggle to afford their family insurance plans. And we are among the luckier ones. We have stable finances. We are, as far as we know, generally healthy. There are no pregnancies underway in our extended family and no current cause for health worries regarding growing children.

Many others, however, are in quite dire straits, with lives literally depending on continuance of the current care they receive under the ACA. For example, listen to and/or read about the lives of the Little Lobbyist families. Look them in the eyes and tell them they will have to figure out these health care things all over again, and "good luck," by the way. Any/all health care instability, uncertainty, and financial challenges arising out of G-C-H are frightening and crushing consequences with which they must deal.

Health care curve balls come to all of us. Today's health gives way to tomorrow's unwelcome surprises. Surely you must know this, if you've lived enough years and known enough people. However, most of us do not have health insurance for life, as you do. We can each/all be financially destroyed at the first drop-of-a-health-care hat. We worry each and every day that our resources are enough to care for our loved ones and ourselves. Yet, according to multiple health organizations and all 50 state Medicaid directors, the G-C-H bill will cause disruption, do real harm, and will not provide the coverage most people need at prices most can afford. How can you justify moving forward with it?

Further, irrespective of outcome, I do not support this sham process filled with political finagling and hidden agendas, riddled with problem data, and an end product screened from public view and shielded from proper CBO scoring.

Our Congress is intended to be a deliberative, bipartisan body of public servants, working together to effect positive change for the US and its citizens. Unfortunately, that is not the prevailing nature of Congress today. Shameful.

Take a brave step - drop this bill. Vote no. Marshall your efforts to build a better bipartisan health care plan. Your political fortunes will rise, not fall, as many of us await a return to reasoned debate and civil discourse. SO many are SO disgusted with the tenor and tone of your work right now.

Hoping for better health care,

Christine Burcham
Long Beach, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Schroeder and Bunzel family, [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Comments for Hearing to Consider Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Senate Finance Committee members,

I am writing to oppose any advance of the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill, which would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Our daughter, Inga Bunzel, and I went to Ron Johnson's Milwaukee office to talk with his aid about the many reasons why we opposed the first attempt at Repeal and Replace. The new proposal has provisions that are even more MEAN spirited than any prior proposal. It seems that Mr. Johnson either did not get the messages we spoke and written reasons for opposing taking away healthcare from too many people or he does not wish to provide care for folks with needs. Why is it acceptable that some people get care adequate to maintain their health and quality of life but others shall be denied access?

Our daughter, Inga, is a young woman with Down syndrome who is able to have a part time job and participates in community social and exercise activities thanks to the Wisconsin IRIS program which administers Medicaid funding to help her achieve close to her full potential. It also helps other folks in the community know that people with disabilities can contribute to their lives. Besides her Medicare and Medicaid coverage of healthcare (It does not include vision or dental care.), Inga has a paid supportive home care person, YMCA membership, respite care funding and shared ride taxi tickets. She wants to move to a group home or Adult Family Home. In order to fund having her live more independently, we would need to arrange staff and services at a different location. We could not afford to pay for her to live in a group home and would not want her to go to a nursing home. We know other people with disabilities that have similar or greater needs, whose families are stuck in poverty due to their inability to work long hours at living wage jobs while they care for their loved one.

We fear that allowing cuts to Medicaid would cause our daughter to have reduced services for her long term care needs. When Inga is not engaged in the community, she spends far too much time in front of a screen (television or computer) and cannot enjoy having people appreciate her sparkling personality. Families and care givers have worked for YEARS to set up structures and programs (Home and Community Based Services) that get people with disabilities closer to the life they deserve. A disability can happen to anyone. I want services that I may need for a disability to be paid for out of our taxes. We cannot trust that our state government would not take advantage of the "flexibility" to states to cut services and tighten eligibility. Our state lawmakers can find \$3 billion to give to a foreign corporation that may provide some jobs for a while (Corporate Welfare), but object to allowing tax dollars to be used by folks who need food subsidies, long term care services or healthcare.

We also oppose your provision that takes away protections for people who have pre-existing conditions. My husband has more than one pre-existing condition, as many others in his age group. When he was covered through the carpenters' union health fund, we had good coverage. Then, there was a year when we had to hold our breath, hoping nothing major came up (We did have to pay out of pocket for a piece of medical equipment.), until the ACA guaranteed him coverage for his pre-existing conditions and ten essential health benefits. As it is, there are years when we pay about a third of our income on medical expenses. We are not going to be able to pay higher yet premiums for coverage if insurance companies decide to give punishment of greater costs for pre-existing conditions.

We have other family members who need coverage for mental health treatment. These conditions, also, can happen to anyone at any time. As a nurse, I know that mental health is treated more efficiently when started early in a preventative way.

At a time when income disparity is ever increasing, why would you want to cause so much suffering to real people who need health care!? As a nurse who has volunteered in a free clinic, I have seen people who have put off treatment of chronic conditions until they are serious. I have seen our patient load decrease after we found coverage through the ACA for some of our clients. We have seen people that had their health improve to a point when they were more able

to perform at work and therefore, provide for their families. Would you want your family to have to choose between paying rent, buying food or obtaining healthcare?

I am begging you to find it in your brains and hearts to provide with our taxes a single payer, universal healthcare system, NOT administered for profit by insurance companies. When we give corporations the priority of profits over caring for people, they are not deserving of the wealth.

Do the right thing—SCRAP the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill,

L. Joy Schroeder

[REDACTED]

West Bend, Wisconsin 53090

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Landor Keegin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Susan Keegin
Cranberry Isles, Me 04625

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: E. READINGER [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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,
Ellen Readinger
Los Angeles, CA

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Wise Woman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Rae Denny
Plano, TX

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rachel Perrault [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Health bill

Big Part of reason for high medical costs is outrageous Drug costs. After you pass this bill, start working on fixing/improving Medicare part D. Or put it in this bill. As long as govt cant negotiate drug prices for the elderly, they will remain high. Why wouldn't they? Their is no reason for drug companies to be reasonable as it stands. They don't need to be. And D insurers keep raising premiums.

And the needed drugs have high copays. Again, the middle class has to pay. D is only good for the poorest of the poor. I am glad they are being helped. But, the rest of us are having trouble paying.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Kamerling [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Stop ACA Repeal!

I am a single mom with a daughter in college and I will not be able to afford healthcare on my own if you take it away, GC bill is too dangerous for too many Americans and if it passes I will have to choose between health care for me or health care for her. That is an awful choice to have to make. Please don't make me make that chalice.

Robin Kamerling

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Horstman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose 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,

Theresa Horstman
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA. 98115

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebecca Bingham (McCormick) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:29 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Save ACA, but fix it.

Good morning,

First of all, thank each of you for your service in the Senate. I appreciate your efforts to find a solution to the healthcare issues we face.

At some point, it seems prudent to examine how every other developed nation in the world provides some form of Universal Healthcare for their citizens. Here at home, when I mention that, I usually hear a canned answer that includes the following talking points:

- We don't want socialized medicine.
- Yeah, but how long do you have to wait to get treatment?
- And the quality of care isn't nearly so good in those countries.

According to a 2014 report published by Commonwealth Fund, "the United States ranks last overall among 11 industrialized countries on measure of health system quality, efficiency, access to care, equity and healthy lives. Despite having the MOST EXPENSIVE health care system, the U.S. stands out for having **the highest costs and lowest performance**. In the U.K., which ranks first overall, spends \$3,406 per person on healthcare, compared to \$8,508 in the U.S. (2011)."

As I travel the world, I've heard no resident of another developed country say they would prefer to have OUR system of healthcare. Do they have complaints about their own? Yes. But what they DO have is coverage they can afford. Every one of them, to the exclusion of none of them.

I can only imagine the nightmare of figuring out how to dismantle a for-profit healthcare system - especially considering the amount of money from pharmaceutical and insurance lobbies. But I do believe you'd find an overwhelming level of support from your constituents to find an equitable solution outside the box.

I am a new 62-year old divorcee, not by design, but because of domestic violence. For 13 years, I had the best insurance on the market through my husband's employer. Now, I'm one of those who is terrified by the options presented to me - especially as a self-employed writer.

I still believe the tenets of Affordable Care Act are the best place to begin. Let's fix that for now.

Rebecca Bingham (McCormick)

[REDACTED]
Hot Springs, AR 71903
[REDACTED]

I'm a storyteller at heart. Since 2007, I've followed my passion as a full time international travel journalist and photographer for newspapers, regional lifestyle magazines and online publications. On the road, you'll usually see me wearing lipstick and pearls, holding a cup of coffee in one hand and an iPhone7 Plus in the other. With any luck, I'll be near live music or somewhere close to water-- especially if fishing is an option. When not traveling, I play cello in a professional string quartet. This year, I'm working as a digital nomad, living in a series of vacation rentals while I write a book called "Finding Home: Creating Comfort in a Chaotic World."

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Samuel Rubinstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose GCHJ Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I write to urge your to reject the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. It would undermine protections for people with preexisting conditions, and would ravage the most vulnerable communities by drastically defunding Medicaid. In doing so, it goes much farther than even repealing the ACA itself. The bill is terrible public policy, which is why every major healthcare professional organization opposes it. It is incredible that the bill is still being seriously considered given that reality. Further, it would be tremendously reckless to vote on a bill reordering a sixth of the economy without a full CBO score. I urge you in the strongest terms to reject partisanship and petty self interest in favor of a bipartisan bill that meets the needs of America's healthcare system, rather than pre-ordained objectives.

Sam Rubinstein
Washington, DC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Scott St. Clair [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy - Medicaid cuts, changes to pre-existing conditions

Dear Finance Committee-

I am the president of the North Carolina chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and a pediatrician practicing in a rural part of North Carolina with a 40% Medicaid population in my practice. (70% of the Medicaid population in North Carolina are kids). The cuts to Medicaid over the next 10 years and then the "medical fiscal cliff" in 10 years will be disastrous for my patients. In addition, I am now wondering if my practice (which is the only practice in a 3 county area) will be able to financially survive.

The bill also guts the pre-existing conditions protections in the ACA and allows for states to bring back yearly and lifetime caps. These will disproportionately affect children!

Please do not move forward on this bill as it will significantly harm children and families across the country.

Sincerely,

Scott St. Clair, MD
Blue Ridge Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
Boone, NC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to consider the Graham Cassidy bill

PLEASE do not pass this bill!

What we need is to fix and support the ACA, since it already exists! Duh!

Thank you,

Virginia M Casey

[REDACTED]

Mankato, MN 56001

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathleen Keadan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:31 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
....

Kathleen Keadan

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: ruth hirshfeld [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 7:32 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Despite many of your colleagues' false assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves those with pre-existing conditions (like autism and epilepsy) dangerously vulnerable.

The draconian cuts to Medicaid will leave our most vulnerable citizens, most notably our and YOUR parents, grandparents and disabled loved ones without the lifeline they so desperately need to be able to live and work in their communities, where they belong.

As the parent of an autistic child with epilepsy, I have no choice but to fight for his RIGHT TO LIFE - not just access to the medical care that he must have to stay alive, but to LIFE and everything that it entails - joy and heartache, trials and triumph, hard work and reward -- a place in his community.

It may be easy to ignore what seems like an emotionally charged plea but my stance on the bill is based in fact, not fear.

The American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have all implored you to vote NO on this bill.

All 50 State Directors of Medicaid, and myriad other groups including the 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, and WomenHeart, among many, many others have issued statements imploring you to vote NO on this bill.

This isn't about politics. It's about people like my son, and our responsibility to protect and fight for his Right to Life.

Please, I implore you to VOTE NO on GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Ruth Hirshfeld, Florida

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rebeca G. Canales [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am strongly opposed to the current Graham-Cassidy bill. I am terrified of what the future under this bill would hold for my 3 year-old son. He survived a perinatal stroke and has intractable Epilepsy. My husband and I are both professionals with access to insurance through our employers yet we have chosen to purchase our health insurance through Covered California since January 1, 2014 without subsidies. I appreciate what Obamacare has done for us and for our fellow citizens.

Graham-Cassidy is unacceptable. Please do better.

Rebeca Canales
[REDACTED]
Fullerton, CA 92831
[REDACTED]



Dan and I both use a number of Medicaid Home and Community Based Services to maintain our independence, including home health care, durable medical equipment, and accessible transportation.

On 09/23/2016, Dan received life altering news. He was diagnosed with Stage 4 oral cancer of the tongue. His treatment included a partial tongue removal and reconstruction, a neck dissection to remove malignant lymph nodes, and 30 radiation treatments. Medicaid Home and Community Based Services were absolutely lifesaving during this time. They ensured that Dan was able to not only access medical care at UW Hospital in Madison, WI but that he had the necessary supports to recover at home after surgery and radiation. On 05/10/2017, a follow up CT scan showed that the disease is currently in remission.

Dan and I want nothing more than to continue living independently as a married couple, especially now that Dan has been given a second chance at life. We are extremely worried that the drastic cuts to Medicaid which are proposed in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal will affect the availability of Home and Community Based Services, as they are optional under federal law. Please vote NO to any proposal which cuts and caps Medicaid. Our lives literally depend on your vote!!!

Thank you,

Dan and Stephanie Helle

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Stephanie Helle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:44 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: our healthcare story

Dan and Stephanie Helle
[REDACTED]

Whitewater, WI 53190

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25th, 2017.

Hello, I would like to share how Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) allow me and my husband Dan to live independently as a married couple. We both have congenital physical disabilities: I have Osteogenesis Imperfecta and he has Cerebral Palsy and optic atrophy which renders him legally blind. We met in college over 15 years ago, got married in 2006, and have been together ever since:



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: kate yeskey singh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:45 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Thoughts from a loyal conservative

How dare you try to debate legislation in less than a week with massive fiscal impacts completely unknown. We want a detailed analysis and review. DONT MESS THIS UP.

Kate Yeskey Singh
MBA 2015 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacqueline Horton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:46 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposed to Trumpcare a/k/a Graham Cassidy Bill

I am writing as a US citizen to ask that all members of this Congress oppose the horrific and heartless Graham Cassidy version of Trumpcare. Citizens deserve better! It is hypocritical that Congress is exempting themselves from the health insurance horrors they want imposed in the rest of us. Work in a bipartisan way to correct the real issues that Americans are facing. That is why you were elected. Stop the greedy, senseless attempts to slaughter the guaranteed essential coverages and instead work in a bipartisan way to reduce the ridiculous costs of pharmaceutical prescription drugs! For example a drug that my son needs for MS costs over \$8000 for a 30 day supply. Our only choice is not to fill that prescription because we could not afford it even if it were \$800! In the interim without that properly prescribed medication his abilities continue to decline as MS continues to spread in his brain. We are watching your votes...holding you accountable for how you vote on this horrible legislation that has no redeeming qualities...unless you are in the top wealthy segment of America and stand to profit ... For millions of the rest of us this legislation could be a death sentence if passed. Vote NO!

Jacqueline Horton
[REDACTED]

St Louis, Missouri 63108

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy B Lazarus [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Personal story of life saved by Obamacare

My son's life was saved by The ACA, better known as Obamacare. Sam, my son, had health insurance. Unfortunately, it didn't cover him for receiving a living donor liver transplant, which he needed to save his life.

He is alive now after being able to enroll in an Obamacare plan.

We are not poor. We are not uninsured we are working people. My son is a pediatrician. But, bad things happen to all of us. You see, through no fault of his own, he developed liver failure and needed a donor liver, not from a cadaver, but from a living person. Usually, if insurance covers a transplant, it covers all kinds. In his case, the insurance lacked this unique benefit.

We are the only developed country in the world which does not have health insurance for all its citizens. How sad. We need a health insurance system that covers all our citizens, rich or poor, sick or healthy, working or unemployed, old or young, able bodied or disabled.

Please do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill. Feel free to contact me in the future.

Sincerely,

Nancy Lazarus

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Gorham <crystallas@...>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:47 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

If the Graham-Cassidy bill is truly an improvement to our healthcare, why will it strip away so many current protections which will make healthcare unaffordable to tens of millions of Americans? If it is truly an improvement to our healthcare, why the last-minute late night changes to increase funds to states that have Republican Senators who have said they would not support this bill? If it is truly an improvement to our healthcare, why do groups like the American Medical Association, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Children's Hospital Association, ALS Association, American College of Physicians, Academy of Pediatricians, Arthritis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, American Psychiatric Association, American Hospital Association, Nurses Association, National Health Council, Multiple Sclerosis Society, American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and the AARP object to this bill? If it is truly an improvement to our healthcare, shouldn't it have wide spread bi-partisan support and easily be able to get more than 60 votes in the Senate? If it is truly an improvement to our healthcare, why are you exempt from it?

Why is America not great enough to join dozens of other nations in making healthcare a right for all of its citizens? Healthy citizens are a critical part of every great nation.

How can any Senator, who is supposed to represent their constituents and make America better for all of its citizens vote yes for a healthcare bill that would make healthcare unaffordable to tens of millions of Americans? How do sick and dying American citizens make America great again?

Please, do the right thing for your constituents and all Americans and vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

*** Linda Gorham ***

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Barbara Berry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:48 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

Senate Finance Committee,

As a senior citizen, 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,

Barbara Berry
[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94112

Barbara Berry

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joshua Berger [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: COMMENTS RE: GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

Dear Senate Finance committee

From what I am reading from dozens of sources, this bill will eviscerate the support many people receive.

It does not even have a CBO score. We are talking about 1/6 of the United States economy. This should not be voted on without a CBO score. There were hundreds of public hearing on the Affordable Care Act. There should be multiple hearings for this amendment as well.

Thank you for doing the right thing and allowing regular Senate process to take place.

Best regards

joshua berger

[REDACTED]
sisters oregon 97759

I do not have the choice to just go without access to healthcare because I cannot afford the high premiums and copays that this bill will allow for people with pre-existing conditions. And, that assumes the care I need is even still covered at all, since the bill changes what are considered to be mandatory covered services under the ACA. And then there are the lifetime caps that would come back that I would reach that in just a few years. Going without the insurance that pays for my trach and ventilator is not an option for even one day. I would not survive a single night without my ventilator. I should not have to give up a career and be forced to live in a nursing home just to be able to continue to breathe.

The proposed GCH does not "improve" healthcare costs nor access challenges. It is a bad bill that should receive 100 "Nay" votes and leave the Senate in a wastebasket.

The ACA is an imperfect law. It has areas that need revision and redevelopment. This is a task I believe you could work on across the aisle and come up with an improved plan for your constituents and all of the American people. An achievement like a plan that improves access while being fiscally responsible would be a worthwhile target for your renovation of the ACA. Please vote NO on the GCH and return to committee to develop a plan on behalf of the American people, not against us.

Better yet, vote for Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All plan and finally allow Americans the same basic healthcare protections that other developed countries have long provided.

Also, if you are truly serious about cutting healthcare costs, stop subsidizing Animal Agriculture and start subsidizing healthy plant foods. Eighty percent of our healthcare costs in the United States are preventable by eating a plant based diet. No one needs to get atherosclerotic heart disease, strokes, and Alzheimer's. No one needs to get hypertension or type 2 diabetes either. These are all preventable, and most are treatable, with a plant based diet. Watch What the Health, Forks Over Knives, or Eating You Alive, then contact The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine and start learning how we can cut healthcare costs by eating a proper diet:

<http://www.pcrm.org/health/reports/agriculture-and-health-policies-intro>

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deborah Mesdag [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:49 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill

Honorable Senators:

I am writing to speak out against the repeal of the ACA and the modifications proposed for Medicaid in the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. As an American with a chronic health condition, your proposed bill will impact me in several detrimental ways.

I have Medicare (DACA) as my primary insurance because I have a disability and my dad is on Social Security. I was born with a rare genetic condition that makes my brain forget to tell my body to breathe. My lungs are healthy but I stop breathing completely when I fall asleep and I don't breathe enough times per minute when awake. This means I need a tracheostomy and a ventilator to sustain my life. The cost of my ventilator rental and necessary supplies is high enough that I could not pay the 20% Medicare copay without Medicaid as my secondary insurance.

The Medicaid Waiver that covers my copay (and also an emergency alert system) would be one of the first programs cut if the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill passes. Losing that coverage would mean having to live in a nursing home instead of living at home with my family. A nursing home would greatly increase the cost of my care and would not save taxpayers any money. The Medicaid Waiver programs save money and allow kids and adults with complex medical needs to live at home in their communities.

I graduated from Yale University and am starting my own company. I will have product for sale online in just a few weeks. Once I start making an income from these sales, I will be able to buy insurance through the Marketplace established by the ACA. But, I will no longer have the ability to purchase this insurance if the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill passes. I would instead be stuck in a nursing home, and not the CEO of a growing company.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Martichuski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:50 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality healthcare. Because of this I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I want bipartisan agreement to fix and improve the ACA! I have a daughter-in-law that has several medical issues that could be considered pre-existing conditions. She and my son are responsible people but do not have an abundance of financial resources. If insurance costs are predicated on ones pre-existing condition(s), they will not be able to afford coverage. This bill allows states to do that! Block grants can be useful but there need to be specifics of what can and cannot be done. Not guaranteeing coverage due to pre-existing or maternity care is unacceptable to me.

Susan L. Martichuski
Eugene, Oregon

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Milissa Larstanna [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:51 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: PLEASE DO NOT PASS THE GRAHAM/CASSIDY BILL

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband is permanently disabled due to chronic lymphatic leukemia. This requires many medications, tests, and doctors visits to keep under control. It is a pre existing condition that cannot be denied if he is to continue living. My brother is developmentally disabled and a kidney transplant patient. His care is covered by Medicaid and he will die without the care he receives. My son has received special education services through school which are also covered through Medicaid. And finally because of my families needs and disabilities, I have been unable to work enough to receive health care coverage so I qualify for benefits through the ACA Medicaid extension. We have always had insurance and worked hard before my husband became ill. We have no other recourse at this time to survive. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. A one payer system like Medicare or Medicaid would work so much better for so many Americans. Please do not pass this awful Graham/Cassidy Bill. We cannot be guaranteed coverage with a State voucher system. This plan is cruel and not fully though out

Sincerely,

Milissa Wilk Larstanna

Stafford Township, NJ

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Teresa Lavinder Zeigler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

The Graham Cassidy bill is a nightmare for my husband. He suffers from neurodegenerative brain disease at age 45. He is worried we will lose our home because he will become uninsured on 12/31/2017 due to the exorbitant premiums for people with preexisting conditions. Cameron deserves more from America. He has worked since age 14. He had a massive stroke at age 18 and had 22 hours of brain surgery, yet he worked himself off of SSDI and earned a Master's in Social Work. He followed the guidance of his Christian faith and worked serving underserved - low income, fragile older adults, at-risk youths, veterans and others with disabilities and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.

Without treatment, including speech, physical and vision, and medication, he will be unsafe in our home. He is ineligible for Medicaid in Virginia without the expansion. Without access to a memory care (dementia) facility, I would be required to leave the workplace to care for him. Without his medications, he would very likely injure me during his REM sleep disorder episodes. He would be very likely to die in 2018 from wandering with his vision loss, choking and getting aspiration pneumonia or even more likely, suicide. Robin Williams killed himself when his lewy body type dementia was untreated. If Cameron he lives, his eyes will tremor, making him functionally blind in addition to the 50% visual field loss from his brain surgery.

My education as a an economist included graduate work in healthcare economics. I would not agree with, but I would understand, if the Graham Cassidy bill made good economic sense. Graham Cassidy is bad from an economic standpoint. It reduces the number of insured patients and pushes healthy young people out of the insurance pool, drives up premium costs due to greater uncertainty in the insurance markets and makes rural hospitals more scarce.

Please do not harm America and kill our loved ones by making them uninsured with your vote on Graham Cassidy. We are America. The extremely significant majority of Americans want you to vote NO! Even the majority of GOP voters have learned that the Affordable Care Act is good for America. Your character is being tested. Will you pass that test?

Thank you for your attention,

Teresa Lavinder Zeigler and by proxy, Cameron Zeigler Vinton in Roanoke County, Virginia

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nancy Winn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:56 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: GCH comments

Hello,

I am the mother of a disabled son. I write to you on behalf of the disabled who may not be able to write themselves. We cannot and should not adopt a health care plan that turns its back on our most vulnerable citizens as this bill does.

Please do not forget those who need help the most.

Sincerely,
Nancy Winn
Kamas, UT 84036

poorly, reflects on the integrity of those who vote for it. Instead take a few more weeks—or even months—to construct a bi-partisan bill that serves to save taxpayer money but in much better ways.

I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony before this Committee.

Donna Downing

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Donna Downing [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:57 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Testimony regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill

*Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing
September 25, 2017
Donna Downing*



My name is Donna Downing. My son, Mike Hoover, and I live in Boulder, CO. We are both firmly in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill because of the horrific impact it will have on the lives of seniors, those with pre-existing conditions, and people with disabilities. Several years ago, my son and I attended a rally on Capitol Hill to defend Medicaid from drastic cuts. We were sponsored by the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition. Another attendee propped the sign stating “Medicaid Matters to Parents” against my wheelchair.

Again, this year, the very survival of Medicaid funding to programs for people with disabilities is dangerously close to being obliterated by the Graham-Cassidy Bill. My son, age 45, faces losing the supports that keep him employed—housing, transportation, and employment coach. He is Autistic and has an Anxiety Disorder. Medical supports, including psychological services are essential. He is a marvelous man, appreciated for his hard work, his love of life, and for giving his time in many areas of public service.

Colorado, due to the Tabor Amendment, is not able to raise taxes to replace the massive cuts our state is anticipated to receive. Stating that the Graham-Cassidy Bill is adequately replacing the Affordable Care Act is--well I shall state it as it is. It's a lie the writers and sponsors are trying to force on our citizens.

Many people, as they age, require increasing medical care and not always because of poor lifestyle choices. Sometimes it is a young driver who misses a stop sign and changes my life and that of my brother forever. I use the Medicare and Social Security that I paid into over a nearly 40-year career. These are NOT welfare programs.

At age 68, and as a double amputee, I'm trying hard to independently meet my living needs. Spiraling costs of medicine, medical equipment, and health care may change my ability to pay my insurance premium, provide for utilities and food, and my current in home services. I do not receive Medicaid, but if my health suddenly changes and I need increased medical supports, people in that situation would normally turn to Medicaid to receive skilled nursing facility or in-home supports which are currently available through Medicaid. How will this nation survive if working adults with aging parents who, under Graham-Cassidy, face quitting their jobs to care for parents who could contribute some, but not totally to increased levels of care? In my situation, my Autistic son cannot fully care for me—nor can I bring him to my home and care for him. He was in my care until age 29. One month later, a driver missed a stop sign and forever changed my future. Putting me in a pre-existing condition pool will impoverish me in a few months!

The ACA needs fixing. Take the time to do it right, instead of in behind-closed-door meetings. How many women were involved in the writing of this bill? How many individuals or organizations serving people using Medicaid were consulted? When I read the lists of national associations who oppose this bill, it is evident Congress has not crafted a bill that serves the needs of all Americans. Passing this bill with the primary purpose of repealing the ACA, but doing it so

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Tina Rufo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:59 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

To all voting on this bill,

As a nurse for over 30 years, I see every day patients having to make choices about whether they can afford their healthcare even though they have insurance. People are trying to be responsible about paying for their healthcare but every time the rules change. The ACA was good in some aspects but it never was intended to limit the insurance companies' ability to increase premiums and co-pays unnecessarily. Each time patients take responsibility, the rules change. The finish line is moved. This is not how patients should be cared for. Everyone deserves healthcare. Human life is not a commodity to be traded on the stock market.

Please vote against the Graham Cassidy bill which does nothing but make healthcare more inaccessible and more unaffordable.

Real lives are at stake.

Tina Rufo RN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sara Winterer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:53 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do NOT repeal Affordable Care Act

I am responsible for my own health care. I am willing to pay a fair share. But, before the ACA, I got stuck with an "unfair share." I even had my own doctors, when they heard what my monthly premiums were, tell me to drop my insurance and just go out of pocket for my healthcare costs. Which I did for a year. Then California created the PCIP plan and then the federal government created the ACA. I have paid my full premium for the past three years... And was lucky enough to get a substantial subsidy when I lost a big job. And was even luckier to be in a position to pay it back the following year when I got a better job. That's how it's supposed to work... And it did.
Quit putting roadblocks up on the way to the future... tell the Koch brothers to go to hell and get to work solving real problems.

Sara Winterer
US citizen
California

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carey Baumgarten [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:01 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

As a clinical social worker at a large comprehensive cancer center in Western N.C., I am acutely aware of multi-faceted devastation of cancer and other life-threatening diseases. I also witness the crushing impact that cancer has on patient AND their family members; for both patients and caregivers, it challenges their health, energy, ability to work and earn an income, pursue education and protect their life savings – even when they have insurance. It will be exponentially worse if comprehensive, affordable insurance is no longer available.

The majority of the patients we see rely on Medicare, Medicaid or insurance through the Affordable Care Act. We also serve a significant number of uninsured patients and our hospital provides care at free or reduced cost to people who qualify. Losing the availability of “Obamacare,” and/or further weakening Medicaid would be BEYOND DEVASTATING for our patients and for our medical system.

For the population I serve, eliminating or weakening those programs, plus penalizing people for pre-existing conditions would bankrupt so many more families. It isn't just the individual patient who is impacted by the disease and the cost of care; whole families are effected and all of their lives are negatively impacted by financial burden of medical care – even when they do have insurance!

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act! Please do not further weaken Medicaid by reducing funding and giving even more responsibility to the states. Some programs are most efficient and effective when there is federally administered, nation-wide continuity; it would be far better to establish medical coverage that is uniform and available to all and tax us accordingly.

Sincerely,

Carey Baumgarten, MSW, LCSW
Asheville, NC 28803

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dan Coplan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Do Not repeal the ACA!!!

To Whom it may Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with teh ACA is that I have several pre-existing conditions and over the age of 60. To buy insurance without the protections of the ACA would be too expensive and I might have to file BK if I had a serous medical event.

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

Sincerely,

D Coplan
Marina del rey CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: LeVanna Atkinson-Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:03 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO on Graham Cassidy

I'll be blunt - everything about this legislation is irresponsible. It threatens to harm more Americans than it will help. It's not being written or managed in a bipartisan manner. It's being rushed through back channels and horse trading. The majority of the people don't want it.

This is not how we become a more perfect union. This is a shameful disgrace of a bill, and anyone supporting it is an embarrassment to the role of congressional representative.

-LeVanna Atkinson-Williams
Encino, CA 91316

- Nor will there be hearings
- Nor will there be any kind of bipartisan process or “regular order”
- In addition to which, the senators of key states are being out and out bribed (with extra health care dollars promised to their states) if they vote for this heinous thing.

The majority of Americans are hugely opposed to this bill. Yet Cassidy and Graham go out and lie, and claim people like Jimmy Kimmel “don’t know what they’re talking about.” Yet when facts are checked, it turns out Kimmel is right and Cassidy is wrong. The GOP will have an incredible mess on their hands – worse even than their clear lack of ability to govern – if they pass this garbage.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan McLaughlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:02 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement in Opposition of the Graham-Cassidy Bill
Attachments: HealthCareStatement.docx

(also attached as a Word doc)

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

My name: Susan A McLaughlin

Address: [REDACTED] Seattle WA 98118

I am writing in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to the Graham-Cassidy health care repeal. Besides what I hear about the major reduction in health care funding to states under the new law – a reduction in federal funding to states by \$215 billion through 2026 and by more than \$4 trillion over a 20-year period, according to estimates by Avalere Health Care, a reduction that would kick **MILLIONS** off of health care – my own personal situation also concerns me. And it absolutely should **NOT**, as I am the poster child for being about the healthiest person in the universe, except for the **DREAD** condition that I am female, and I have had children, identical twins, who were premature.

As I understand it, under this repeal, insurance providers would not be required to provide maternity care, and further, my children would've incurred such medical bills in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) that they could've hit their lifetime cap even before leaving the hospital. This is insane. It is absolutely immoral and uncivilized that the health care law would not provide for the poor and the sick. I am none of these things (I work, I have a PhD in science, I have private health care, and I am healthy), but it wouldn't provide for me or my children either!

Honestly, are all these elderly male senators always healthy? I sincerely doubt it; they sure don't look it. And somehow those who are sick (except for them) need to be punished? And women and babies also need to be punished? Last time I looked, men were involved in making the babies, and they even – shockingly – were babies themselves once! And yet, they don't want to have to be involved in paying for the birthing and care of babies! Shameful and disgusting!

Lastly, the way this bill is being pushed through is also shameful and ridiculous and craven:

- Time will not be allowed for a CBO score


My husband and I might be entrepreneurs if we felt we could afford and maintain stable health insurance. Many among our friends are in the same position. When the ACA passed, we were hopeful that it would allow us to forge out on our own, but we didn't trust that some in government wouldn't try to take it away, so we held back, waited to see. Our concerns were warranted and we now watch to see if a system that has benefited so many, has saved so many lives, and could benefit so many more, will be dismantled.

Support children. Support people, healthy and sick. Support entrepreneurs.

Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill, and support and strengthen the ACA.

Sincerely,

Anne N. Barker


San Rafael, CA 94901

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Zachary Baeseman [mailto:zbaeseman@theda.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senate Finance Committee:

This bill will destroy primary care. One of the best parts of being a rural Wisconsin family physician the past 3 years is that I've only come across 4 of my patients that didn't have health insurance! That means most of the time I get to do what's right for my patients without having to have the awful conversation of what I don't know without labs or imaging and what the patient can afford. Please write or call congress. This will be bad for primary care and therefore de facto bad for Americans. The tax break in the bill would likely benefit me, but I don't want it at the cost of my patients. You shouldn't either if you care about people over profit.

Best regards,
Zach

Zachary J. Baeseman, MD, MPH, FAAFP

[Redacted signature block]



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Max Bennett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Regarding the Graham-Cassidy Hearing on 9/25

My name is Max Bennett from Virginia. I am writing to the Finance Committee in regards to the Graham-Cassidy bill your committee is holding a hearing on on Monday, September 25, 2017.

I will be blunt: the Graham-Cassidy bill is one of the most dangerous pieces of legislation that has ever been put forth before the United States Senate. The bill proposes sweeping changes to the American healthcare system, which accounts for 1/6 of the US economy, with no CBO, with no debate, with no opportunity to propose amendments, and a lone "hearing" by this committee.

What's worse, Sen. Hatch has elected to allow no witnesses to come before this committee save for the bill's authors, Sens. Cassidy and Graham. This is equivalent to trying a murderer and allowing only the accused to present evidence. You have silenced the voices of every patient advocacy group, doctors, insurers themselves, all 50 state Medicaid directors, and those who stand to lose the most: American citizens. This is a bastardization of democracy that I never imagined I would witness in my lifetime.

While there is no CBO score, independent and non-partisan groups, including AARP, have analyzed the bill's language and estimate that passing this bill would lead to approximately 32 million Americans losing their health insurance. It cuts an eye-watering \$1.5 trillion from Medicaid funding all the while planting a ticking time bomb that is set to go off in 2026 at which point all Medicaid funding ends.

The bill's Medicaid cuts are so damaging that in attempt to win support from some of the states who stand to lose the most there was an offer to exempt Alaska entirely from the effects. How perverse.

One of the crowning achievements of the Affordable Care Act was it's guarantee of covering pre-existing conditions. No longer could babies be born with birth defects and live their lives under crippling debt simply to survive. No longer does a cancer survivor have to fear losing their job, and their insurance, after staring own death. Graham-Cassidy ends that protection. It allows states to discriminate against individuals simply because they got sick.

I have had the grace and fortune to stay healthy in my 28 years on this planet; I can only hope that luck continues. I cannot say the same about my family. My mother and mother-in-law are both breast cancer survivors. How do you expect them to cover a premium increase of nearly \$29,000?

Even supporters of the bill, such as Sen. Grassley, have admitted that it's bad policy and that this is merely a partisan exercise. As we've seen, this entire process is aimed at pleasing Republican donors who have attached significant amounts of re-election money to the passage of this bill.

I feel ashamed that I even have to write this letter; that I have to spend time justifying why my fellow Americans should have healthcare. Instead of holding this sham hearing in an attempt that merely serves as a fig leaf to Senator McCain, the committee should immediately call for a return to regular order and work towards a bipartisan solution instead of considering a bill that is disliked by 76% of Americans.

I sincerely hope that in your heart of hearts you recognize just how close you are to making a mistake that will literally make millions of Americans' lives worse. There is still time to make the right choice.

Sincerely,
Maxwell Bennett

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Madeleine Maby [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote No on the Graham Cassidy bill

I would like my opposition to this bill to be recorded. I, and so many people I love, will be affected by the health care options you are trying to take away.

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, there will be radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state, 90 seconds of debate? If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Please reject this bill.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Clemente [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO

Hello,
I'm urging you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy disaster being proposed. Please do the right thing by stopping this bill from passing!
Sue Clemente

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: christine Parker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 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 repeals ACA individual and employer mandates: ACA subsidies and ends Medicaid expansion funding.

The legislation would eliminate ACA subsidies that lower premiums, deductibles and co-pays in 2020. It would turn the federal funding for Medicaid expansion and the subsidies into a block grant program.

It loosens ACA regulations regarding pre-existing conditions. The bill would also waive several key ACA protections for those with pre-existing conditions. While it would still require insurers to provide coverage to everyone, it would allow carriers to charge enrollees more based on their medical history. So younger, healthier folks could see their premiums go down, but sicker Americans could find themselves priced out of policies.

It would eliminate ACA's essential health benefits provision, which mandates insurers cover an array of services, including hospitalization, maternity care, prescription drugs, mental health and substance abuse services. This could lower premiums somewhat and give consumers a wider choice of plans. But it would also make it harder for people to buy comprehensive policies so those with pre-existing conditions may not be able to find coverage that meets their health care needs.

It revamps funding for Medicaid overall: The legislation would send the states a fixed amount of money per Medicaid enrollee, known as a per-capita cap, starting in 2020.

States could also opt to receive federal Medicaid funding as a block grant for the non-disabled adults and children in their program. Under a block grant, states would get a fixed amount of federal funding each year, regardless of how many participants are in the program.

States, however, cannot opt to receive block grant funding for elderly and disabled participants.

Graham-Cassidy would also shrink the program even more over time by pegging the annual growth rate of funding for children and non-disabled adults to standard inflation after 2024, rather than the more generous medical inflation.

Either per-capita caps or block grants would limit federal responsibility, shifting that burden to the states. However, since states don't have the money to make up the difference, they would likely either reduce eligibility, curtail benefits or cut provider payments. The block grant would be more restrictive since the funding level would not adjust for increases in enrollment, which often happens in bad economic times.

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Christine Parker, RN CNOR

christine Parker

19047
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sharon Sweet [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: G-C Healthcare Bill

Dear Committee Members,

I respectfully ask that you DO NOT support G-C Healthcare bill coming before the Senate next week.

My personal concerns are loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, high premiums for seniors (I recently turned 60), loss of essential benefits and, less personally but equally important, the loss of coverage for millions of my fellow citizens.

A bill of this magnitude needs to be done through regular order, be bipartisan, have open committee meetings with input and not shoved down the throats because of an arbitrary deadline. I am tired of my government working like this.

If we have rules for how a bill becomes a law that do not include policy hostage holding by the Koch brothers, then we need to follow them.

Sincerely,
Sharon S. Sweet

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bern Lefson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

If this bill is approved my sister will literally die. Her benefits will be cut and her diabetes will kill her. DO NOT PASS this bill

Bernard Lefson

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra Deakle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:20 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare Bill

I want to say that I think that you and everyone else needs to rethink the way that you are creating the bill because people with disabilities like myself really need more than what you are doing. The way you are creating the new bill will put people like me and others like me in jeopardy and we will have nothing and you need to Stop and think about what and how you are doing this new bill because if you were myself would you want someone taking everything you have away from you. People with disabilities like myself need BETTER than what you are doing and I am asking for you to PLEASE think about the people that you are serving and PLEASE do not create a bill that will HURT us because if you keep this bill going it would also end up putting a lot of people in the streets because we the people will NOT be able to keep living like we need to. So please stop and think about what you are doing and really think that if you were in my condition would you want someone to treat you like you don't matter!!!! So please do not take away or mess up what matters specially for people with disabilities!!!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise L-M [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Hartman, Doug (Casey)
Subject: Public Comment for Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: D public comment Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.doc

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Date: Monday, September 25, 2017

From: Denise Lopez-Majano, FiveThreeZero Emerson Circle, Chester Springs, PA

To: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

cc: Doug_Hartman@casey.senate.gov

I will consider letting you adopt the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

IF

you guarantee me and my severely disabled sons, sufficient income for life to (at least) maintain our current standard of living, and to cover any and all medical expenses including,

but not limited to,

premiums and surcharges,

prescriptions,

pre-existing conditions,

preventive screenings/measures,

co-pays/deductibles,

check-ups,

CT scans,

and

that also enables us to keep the healthcare professionals of our choosing no matter which state we live in.

Given my sons' healthcare needs and the location of available specialists, we are very limited as to where we can live, because my sons' disabling diseases preclude travel without severe and long-lasting repercussions.

Additionally, you must guarantee that same standard-of-living income (that covers all medical expenses as indicated above) to everyone.

So, do you and I have a deal?

If not, you must vote NO on this Graham-Cassidy healthcare sham.

A few other things to note -

Under this bill:

- Individuals with incomes ABOVE 400% of the poverty level continue to have tax credits whereas those with the lowest incomes, who currently receive cost-sharing reductions, will no longer get any assistance (tax credits are a form of assistance but don't help people with the lowest incomes). This is neither fair nor is it affordable for those with the lowest incomes!
- Each state will have to develop their own healthcare system, each healthcare system will take each state several years to develop, each states' healthcare system will require investment, employees to develop, implement, train, manage the system, as well as new infrastructure, extensive negotiations across state lines to accommodate out of state healthcare, etc.
- Keep in mind that 20-30% of clinical trials fail and 80% are delayed. From lab to pharmacy counter, only about 10% of drugs make it. When professionals working in their specialties have these sorts of high rates of failure, it is reasonable to assume that devising brand-new healthcare systems, which requires politicians doing something outside their field of expertise, would have at least similar rates of failure.
- You have characterized these state-developed healthcare systems as experiments. What happens if states don't get their healthcare system experiments up and running in time? What happens to people living in states where these experiments fail? WHAT IS THE FALLBACK SYSTEM THAT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFORDABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS TO KEEP THEM AS HEALTHY AS THEY CAN BE AND LIVE TO THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL, AND HOW QUICKLY CAN IT TAKE OVER IN THE FAILED STATES?
- Will all states' enrollment periods be at the same time? How will things like moving from one state to another between enrollment periods be handled? How will state funding be increased to cover individuals during times of economic downturn? Who will determine when funding must be increased? How quickly will funding increase in these unfortunate situations?
- The proposed block grant system reward states for having low-income people, but does **nothing** to ensure that all people, regardless of income, have affordable, accessible and comprehensive healthcare for all of their health concerns (pre-existing or otherwise) to keep them as productive as possible.
- We have all know about the rising cost of prescription drugs, with Novartis' Kymriah said to cost \$475,000/patient for the drug alone (not including preparation, administration etc)! How will patients manage these sorts of costs if states aren't required to cover medication? For that matter, how will I

(single parent, full-time caregiver to my disabled sons) manage to pay for one of my sons' medications, that per gram costs more than the price of gold, but is the ONLY medication we have found, in over 12 years, and 15+ medications, that brings his heart rate closer to normal, thus taking a lot of stress off of his heart and providing some improvement in function?

- Fifty states of trial and error is not the way to ensure that everyone has affordable healthcare that covers all of their needs. What happens to people if their states don't get their systems up and running in time (2 years from now)? And in the states that fail, what fallback provisions are there for constituents that will ensure they DO have accessible, affordable, comprehensive care? Your constituents are not guinea pigs and none of us have given informed consent to participate in these experiments!
- There is no definition of what affordability and accessibility means and this bill provides no enforcement mechanisms for states that fail to provide affordability and accessibility! Without requirements for states to succeed at providing accessible, affordable, comprehensive coverage, and without appropriate enforcement mechanisms, there is little incentive for them to do so.
- Offering access to coverage is very different than ensuring affordability and comprehensiveness of said coverage.
- Offering states the option of what to include/exclude in coverage does *not* ensure affordable comprehensive coverage for state residents!

Just because you may have campaigned on "repeal and replace", does not mean you should pass legislation just to pass a bill. You are supposed to serve ALL of your constituents. However, this bill leaves far too many constituents without affordable coverage that enables them to maintain their health, and therefore this bill is **unacceptable!!!**

Sincerely,

Denise Lopez-Majano

--

"Speak Up About ME, Invisible No More!" - We're Making This HAPPEN!!!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Maureen Rao [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:08 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Healthcare

Please do NOT allow this bill to pass. Millions of Americans will be left with no coverage, tens of thousands will die needlessly, and this administration will be known as the cruelest administration in US history.

Maureen Rao, CT

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gregory Howard [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

To whom it may concern:

Healthcare is a HUGE part is the American economy and it impacts everyone.

I oppose the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

Extend & fund ACA or move to a single-payer model please.

Thank you.

--Greg H.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Elayne Aion [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I have grave concerns about the Graham Cassidy bill the GOP is trying to shove through Congress without a proper opportunity to read and understand it. Since I know I'm not an expert, I'm willing to listen to those who are and every medical, seniors, insurance and human rights organization have come out AGAINST it. Members of your own party don't even know the full extent of how many will lose their access to health care. Nobody thinks The ACA is perfect but instead of destroying it just because you think you can, create something that will protect YOUR FELLOW AMERICANS, not just your fellow millionaires. We are the ONLY developed country in the world that doesn't have universal health care as a right. Vote AGAINST this poor excuse for a health care bill and get working on a real bill that will protect more Americans, not fewer.

Elayne Aion

19038
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lily M. Leiva [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: NO to Graham Cassidy proposal

Please kill the Graham Cassidy proposal, which is not supported by any medical organization in the country. The bill will only hurt Americans. Is that your intention? Please take your hatred of President Obama and your blind partisanship out of the equation. Rather than repeal Obamacare because of your personal feelings toward the past administration, do the right thing and fix the parts of Obamacare that are not working.

Universal, quality healthcare for all Americans, not just some, should be the goal. Let's get all Americans insured. Why is it that you don't have an issue with other types of required insurance, like homeowners or auto insurance, yet you want to make healthcare optional? Increasing the insurer base to 100% of the population will bring the costs down.

Sincerely,

Lily Leiva
30307

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: karen gill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:19 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: This legislation must not pass

To whom it may concern:

I am self-employed individual who buys my insurance on the exchange. I am appalled that this legislation is being considered--this legislation that would not protect me from insurance companies who answer more to their investors than to their customers.

In this last year, since this administration has taken over and tried to take away EVERYTHING I value about being an American, I have been sick and under a doctor's care more than I have in the past 7 years put together. I have had the flu, and the shingles, and high blood pressure, and chest pains, and I have had to have a basal cell carcinoma removed from my face. As more and more protections are being decimated to protect waters, food, and air quality and safety, more people will be sick.

I am horrified that those who depend on Medicaid, those with pre-existing conditions, and those who cannot afford health care could so easily and cavalierly be denied access to needed health care, to be left to die without mercy.

This is shameful.

Karen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jill Shultz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Defeat Graham-Cassidy to protect our economy

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill on many grounds. Since your purview is finance, let's talk about its potentially devastating economic effects:

1. The one-size-fits-all block grant program would disproportionately hurt some states because the cost of delivering health care is not the same across the country.
2. The radical cuts and restructuring of Medicaid would disproportionately hurt our most vulnerable Americans: seniors, people with disabilities, and poor children. According to CNN, there could be a **32% cut in Medicaid funding for children** (<http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/22/politics/cassidy-graham-charts/index.html>). How can you expect to have a healthy economy in the future if you don't invest in the health of children?
3. The woefully inadequate block grants would be completely eliminated in 2026. What then? We've seen what happens when millions of Americans don't have health insurance. They defer treatment. Many end up in emergency rooms. The result is less effective health care that costs significantly more. Hospitals go bankrupt, and then everyone in that area is at greater risk.
4. By eliminating the federal provision that requires insurance companies to cover people with pre-existing conditions without charging higher premiums, the likely result is that people with pre-existing conditions will be priced out of the market. Millions more could find themselves uninsured.
5. And if you're lucky enough to keep insurance? Independent analyses suggest that out-of-pocket costs will rise significantly for individuals.
6. This plan would almost certainly destabilize the individual insurance market in the short run and perhaps destroy them in the future. Imagine if each state went its own way. No economies of scale. Paperwork nightmare.
7. How would the states pay for their higher burden? They'd have to raise taxes, cut critical programs such as education, kick more people off insurance, or cut benefits. Some of the likely targets would be community-based services that typically provide much better care and allow people to avoid living in institutions. That's why so many governors have come out against this plan.

Beginning in 2027, this bill would essentially amount to repeal-without-replace – ONLY WORSE – because of its extra cuts to Medicaid. The CBO estimated that the previous repeal-without-replace plan would leave 32 million more people uninsured. Clearly, this plan would create a far worse situation.

In fact, the one “benefit” of this bill might disappear before the vote. The provisions that would provide flexibility to states might well be cut out of the bill by the Senate Parliamentarian, who is likely to see through the rather transparent tweaks of language that was rejected during the “Byrd bath” of the previous Better Care Reconciliation Act. So states would receive less federal funding for health care and gain no freedoms.

A great nation is measured by how well it takes care of its most vulnerable citizens. This bill does just the reverse! It's craven, with an unfair distribution of money that's clearly based solely on political considerations. It would create economic turmoil that would ripple throughout our economy.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robbie Douglas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to Graham Cassidy HC Bill!!!!

I do not support this bill. There is no way it would make US citizens healthier, happier or more well off (unless you are getting Wall Street exec and you already have more than what you deserve)!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Pat Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Amendment Hearing

I am Pat Turner
[REDACTED]

Ameircus, GA 31709

RE The Graham Cassidy Bill hearing on September 25, 2017. I am strongly opposed to the bill. It punishes states who expanded medicaid under Obamacare. It does not guarantee coverage for pre-existing conditions. Simply giving the choice to the state does not guarantee coverage. Many healthcare professionals oppose the bill. It would effectively destroy many small rural hospitals where there is already a lack of healthcare services.

Please do not pass this bill.

Sincerely,
Pat Turner

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: KC Shaw [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

The senate republicans voting for this hot mess of a trumpcare bill should be ashamed of yourselves. This bill serves no purpose other than to give POTUS a win. The voters will have their day when you are up for re-election. Even if this isn't brought up for a vote, this will cost 8 of you your jobs in 2018. And another group in 2020. We will not forget that you tried to harm Americans and their families.

KC Shaw

This message contains information from Technology Consultants that is privileged and confidential, and intended for the individual(s) named only. If you are not the intended recipient be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents is prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please reply to the sender that you have received the message in error, or notify us by telephone 239.707.8901 immediately, and delete the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Moore, Maureen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy healthcare legislation

Hello Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a nightmare for Medicare recipients.

It will effectively dismantle Medicare, leaving millions of elderly and disabled without coverage. It punishes large states which enhanced their Medicare programs under the ACA, while rewarding smaller states which rejected Medicare under the ACA.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will raise insurance premiums.

According to a report by HHS, estimated annual premium surcharges would go up for pregnancy (\$17,320), for asthma (\$4,340), for diabetes (\$5,600) and lung cancer (\$72,980).

These are not small numbers. The negative consequences of this bill's passage would be devastating to individuals, families, local communities and the entire nation. Even the health insurance industry is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill, claiming it would create chaos in the economy.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for children, seniors, the disabled and women. It is bad for people with pre-existing conditions. It is bad for states. It is bad for the nation.

The only group that this legislation is good for is the Koch Brothers, a couple of unelected old men who want to take our country back to the John Birch Society of the 1950s.

It is imperative that this bill is defeated.

Maureen Moore

Professor of Humanities

Cosumnes River College

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: david green [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:34 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Every time the Senate comes up with a new bill to replace the ACA it is worse than the previous bill. I can't understand why they can say they want to improve the health care system and then come out with bills that make it far worse for such an enormous number of people.

If they pass this bill it will be a disaster for the entire country. The only people who will be better off with this bill are the insurance companies and the Senators that were paid to pass this ridiculous and careless, cruel bill. Please don't allow this to happen.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Day, Donna [SYNNA] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy NO!

To ram a bill through that only 17% of Americans want, with no hearings, no CBO score, with 51 votes, by bribing GOP lawmakers with deals, would be legislative malfeasance even if it weren't a cold, heartless bill that would certainly kill low income people and people with special medical needs.

The drive pass to this bill, based mainly on keeping a promise to people who were against the ACA but have since changed their minds & pleasing multimillionaire donors who want a tax cut, is also driving a nail into democracy's coffin. All sectors of society and health care associations vehemently oppose this bill. It's absolutely shameful that the GOP senate is pushing it. Even if we disagree on healthcare spending, surely we must agree that this is supposed to be a representative government. Who is being represented, other than wealthy donors who want a tax cut? The excuse of keeping a promise, after the people who were asking for a repeal changed their mind is ludicrous. The idea of ramming a vote through simply because the rules change back to a 60 vote rule soon is desperation politics.

I'm fortunate to still have my health at 60 Years, but I lost my father to cancer last year. He was living very modestly, and at the end we needed a nursing home's help for his care. A low end nursing home which would be put out of business by this heartless bill. You have no idea the hardships and heartaches Americans would face without these homes. My father was a big man, and I needed help changing his diaper. I couldn't have done it alone. My mother is aging now, and she needs a lot of medications and appointments. If she loses her insurance, it would break not only her, but me, too.

The GOP makes untrue statements about their plan, as if they don't even know what it says, or believes the public is so stupid we can't read. Enough with the Lies.

They repeatedly complain that Obama-Care was passed by one party and that's why it must be repealed. It isn't actually true, but it's the claim. So the remedy is to create another law by one party? For god's sake, people, work together and fix the problems with the ACA. It's our nation that matters, not your party. The Graham-Cassidy plan is negligence of duty by the GOP. They have a duty to work with Democrats, to debate, to study, to be honest, diligent. To not strip away healthcare insurance from millions while keeping it for themselves. Not buying votes with sweetheart deals.

Enough is enough. Stop being a middle school mud slingers and start being adults who care about this nation's people.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ed Gitre [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT APPROVE

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Do NOT approve the current repeal-and-replace effort. You would be sacrificing country for party if you do.

If a late-night comedian is getting the better of one of your colleagues in the Chamber, would it not indicate that you have a serious problem on your hands? Why is it so impossible to work in a bi-partisan way?

With deep anger,

Ed Gitre

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: PJ Gray <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:33 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Concerned U.S. Citizen and Voter response

Please DO NOT repeal the ACA!

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robin Elise Weiss [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I would urge you not to hold a vote on this bill without a CBO score. I am very concerned that this will cause a great shift and are a cunt to me as well as seeing many millions of people without coverage particularly for pre-existing conditions. The use of block grants in this manner is not appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration.
Dr. Robin Weiss

--

--

Robin Elise Weiss, PhD, MPH, CPH, LCCE
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Traye Goss [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Repeal of ACA

It's very important that the ACA not be repealed and replaced. It is completely irresponsible of the Republicans to rush things through.

If 32 million lose insurance over preexisting conditions could mean death. This is not the American way. It is a petty grudge that Trump has against Obama. Rather than discard what we have help improve it.

Tracy Goss
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathryn Kaintz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 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 a nursing student I see patients everyday who are both poor and suffer from life threatening chronic disease. The fact that many of these diseases would require them to pay even more for their healthcare is unacceptable. Please show that you respect the health and dignity of my future patients.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kathryn A. Kaintz

Kathryn Kaintz

19148
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Edie Birney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Cassidy-Graham

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, Edie Birney
[REDACTED] Georgetown, Maine 04548

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gayle Deringer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:42 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 appears that people like me will either not be able to afford to buy insurance or medical bills will send us into bankruptcy. I am in treatment for breast cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. I also suffered a severe lower back injury in 1991 and have had 4 spinal surgeries, and will most likely need yet another so that I can continue my ability to ambulate on my own. I am, as I believe most of us are, a walking pre-existing condition - and will require ongoing medical care for the rest of my life. I do not possess unlimited cash resources in order to fully finance the medical care that will keep me alive and help provide some sense of quality of life. I am more than afraid, I am deeply saddened to know my life and many lives in our country will be negatively impacted if ACA is repealed. It's not perfect, but has afforded us an opportunity to monitor our health and receive the medical care that is needed.

Fixing what's wrong with ACA makes much more sense because I'd like to think my life matters to all elected officials - no matter party. Cutting my health care in order to obtain tax cuts that won't affect me or the majority of taxpayers is simply cold and cruel. It's dishonest to attempt to fool us into believing anything else. Most of us are well read and well researched as we follow this very significant health care issue. It's clear to me that even former opposers of ACA now support ACA. Most of them had never realized the wonderful coverage and provisions they experience were all due to changes made under the ACA act. Please don't make my healthcare about tax reform. Please don't fear losing contributions because you stand up for what's just and right for me.

I'm a good person. I'm a Christian. I've raised 2 upstanding sons as a single parent. I've helped to care for my aging parents. I've both suffered and celebrated through out my life. I hope you know that I'm not alone, and that millions upon millions of Americans are depending on you to improve on ACA and do what's right. Think bigger than yourself, bigger than your party. I pray that you'll look at yourself in the mirror and know you did all that you could to help save my life. You don't know me, but there are a lot people like me. Maybe you've never hit with such hardship, maybe your family has been blessed with good health. What you can't forget, us that none of us know what tomorrow will bring. Do not repeal ACA, please let me live.

Gayle Deringer

Gayle Deringer

18017
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sarah Block [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: senator@markey.senate.gov; senator@warren.senate.gov
Subject: Opposition to the Cassidy-Graham-Heller-Johnson Amendment to H.R. 1628, the "American Health Care Act of 2017."

Sarah Block
[REDACTED]
Cambridge, MA 02138
[REDACTED]

Subject: Opposition to the Cassidy-Graham-Heller-Johnson Amendment to H.R. 1628, the "American Health Care Act of 2017."

Dear Senators:

I am not an expert, a doctor, or a policy wonk. I am however a mother. I have more than one easily treatable pre-existing conditions, Celiac Disease easily treated with a gluten free diet and Graves Disease, easily treated with a daily thyroid pill, that would fall under one of the pre-existing conditions that could potentially deny me care depending on what my state chooses.

I am old enough to recall what this meant before the passage of Romney Care in Massachusetts and later the ACA. In 2001, shortly after the collapse of the twin towers my company had massive layoffs and with that went my health insurance. With my mild pre-existing thyroid condition (Graves Disease) this made me ineligible to purchase an individual insurance plan and I had to pay more than \$1,000 per month for COBRA plan. At the time I was a single parent with a toddler and my parents were deeply concerned if I did not maintain medical insurance an unexpected illness or disease could potentially bankrupt our family. Luckily, they were both working and at the time could subsidize the COBRA until I was no longer eligible. I did find an excellent job with insurance that I've held since.

Although I am personally not an expert, I have collected and read dozens of letters from experts in healthcare, insurance companies, professional medical organizations, hospital associations, disability groups and they all oppose this later effort to repeal the ACA.

There are three points that many of these letters share and that I urge you to heed their advice:

- Return to regular order. Over and over I see letter after letter from a wide range of groups urging the Senate to focus on bipartisan reform efforts to strengthen and expand the health insurance coverage gains already achieved, and improve the stability and affordability of the insurance market.
- Slow Down, this bill would result in chaos in the insurance markets harming people across the board.
- The result will be unbearable cost shifting to patients, health providers and states, causing loss of coverage for tens of millions of individuals and families.

I am deeply concerned not only about the content of your bill but your dismal process. I understand you do not care for the ACA, however, whatever you do should first follow the rule "**First, Do No Harm**" According to the AMA in their letter to the Senate on September 19, "Unfortunately, the Graham-Cassidy Amendment fails to match this vision and violates the precept of 'first do no harm.'" Go through regular order, hold hearings, and write some solid legislation that people love. I know that this is possible, just like we are the country that sent people to the moon. It takes everyone working together to make this happen and show us in our little blue state that you can govern, not just destroy.

I urge you to listen to the experts and the millions and millions of medical care providers, insurance providers, and patients that they speak for. I also urge you to listen to ALL 50 Medicaid Directors from every state in the country when they plea with you to vote NO.

For your convenience, I have collected statements opposing the bill I have read with a link to the letter text in case you have not seen all of them.

Regular American people like me and others want a bill that makes us certain that the **NEW** will be better than the **OLD** and that we are not afraid of and that we understand and believe will make health care in this nation better. We care not a whit what it is called or who votes for it as long as we know our elderly, disabled, injured, poor, and our children, are not suffering and dying as a result and that families are not losing everything to cover unexpected costs of a premature birth or accident or cancer diagnosis. I understand some people have high premiums on the individual market, but none of us are invulnerable to a sudden spike in medical needs or unexpected illness or injury, even the young and healthy like my cousin Sam and his wife Sarah who after an aneurysm has been hospitalized since March 30, 2017 which also meant her daughter Aviva was born via c-section under 2 pounds who spent 90 days in the NICU.

Please, please VOTE no and kill this bill, don't kill us!

Thank you very much,

Sarah E. Block

Partial List of Organizations and Governors with Medical, Insurance or Consumer Expertise Opposing Graham-Cassidy with links to the statement on their organization website and a an excerpt from their plea.

American Medical Association

Letter / Press Release

Unfortunately, the Graham-Cassidy Amendment fails to match this vision and violates the precept of "first do no harm."

American Hospital Association

Press Release

Action Alerts

We believe that coverage could be at risk for tens of millions of Americans under the Graham-Cassidy proposal. We continue to urge senators to work in a bipartisan manner to address the challenges facing our health care system.

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."

AARP

Letter

We are deeply concerned these cuts will endanger the health, safety, and care of millions of individuals who depend on the essential services provided through Medicaid.

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

Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 18, 2017 — Sixteen patient and provider groups oppose the proposal put forward by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Dean Heller (R-Nev.), and Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) that will negatively impact patients' access to adequate and affordable health coverage and care.

This bill would limit funding for the Medicaid program, roll back important essential health benefit protections, and potentially open the door to annual and lifetime caps on coverage, endangering access to critical care for millions of Americans. Our organizations urge senators to oppose this legislation.

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.

Our organizations, instead, strongly support the bipartisan hearings spearheaded by Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-Wash.) in the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and by Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) in the Senate Finance Committee. These hearings, focused on market stabilization and other critical issues, represent a modest, yet promising first step towards addressing our nation's health care challenges. Bipartisan agreement on the Children's Health Insurance Program also represents a welcome return to regular order, and we applaud the committees for undertaking this critical work.

We urge Congress to continue this important bipartisan effort rather than advancing proposals that would weaken access to the care Americans need and deserve. We stand ready to work with both sides of the aisle to build long-lasting bipartisan solutions both now and in the future.

Governors

Ohio

Colorado

Alaska

Montana

Pennsylvania

Louisiana

Virginia

Nevada

Massachusetts

Vermont

Letter

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer: As you continue to consider changes to the American health care system, we ask you not to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson amendment and renew support for bipartisan efforts to make health care more available and affordable for all Americans. Only open, bipartisan approaches can achieve true, lasting reforms. Chairman Lamar Alexander and Ranking Member Patty Murray have held bipartisan hearings in the Senate's

Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and have negotiated in good faith to stabilize the individual market. At the committee's recent hearing with Governors, there was broad bipartisan agreement about many of the initial steps that need to be taken to make individual health insurance more stable and affordable. We are hopeful that the HELP committee, through an open process, can develop bipartisan legislation and we believe their efforts deserve support. We ask you to support bipartisan efforts to bring stability and affordability to our insurance markets. Legislation should receive consideration under regular order, including hearings in health committees and input from the appropriate health-related parties. Improvements to our health insurance markets should control costs, stabilize the market, and positively impact coverage and care of millions of Americans, including many who are dealing with mental illness, chronic health problems, and drug addiction. We look forward to continuing to work with you to improve the American health care system. Sincerely,

The American College of Physicians is the largest medical specialty organization and the second largest physician group in the United States.

Letter

In July of this year, the Senate failed to garner the necessary votes in the process of moving forward with legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act in a budget reconciliation bill. Rather than continue with an effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, we urge you to set aside this legislation and instead, focus on bipartisan efforts to stabilize the health insurance marketplaces, create competition among insurers, and lower the costs of health care for all Americans. We also urge that any legislation to amend current law should be developed through regular order, with hearings, debate, and committee mark-ups, and with sufficient time for independent analysis by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), independent experts, and the clinicians and patients directly affected by the proposed changes. We stand ready to work with you should our expertise be of help. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Buckley at bbuckley@acponline.org

America's Essential Hospitals

America's Essential Hospitals is the leading association and champion for hospitals and health systems dedicated to high-quality care for all, including the most vulnerable.

Press Release

Rather than consider a proposal with no CBO score or committee review, the Senate should stay focused on bipartisan efforts to shore up the insurance market, extend Children's Health Insurance Program funding, and delay Medicaid DSH cuts.

America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)

Letter

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

Blue Cross

Press Release

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association issued the following statement today in response to the health care reform bill proposed by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Dean Heller (R-NV) and Ron Johnson (R-WI).

"Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies are committed to ensuring that all Americans have access to health insurance coverage and the peace of mind that comes with it. The current market is not working, and we will continue to work with lawmakers on a bipartisan basis to improve the individual insurance marketplace with the goal of making coverage more affordable and accessible for all.

Although we support providing states with greater flexibility in shaping health care options for their residents, we share the significant concerns of many health care organizations about the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. The 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. We will continue to work with lawmakers on solutions to improve Americans' health care and assure that people can access the coverage and care they need."

Kaiser Family Foundation

Analysis

Maryland Governor

Press Release

September 19, 2017

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Larry Hogan today released the following statement in response to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill:

“As I have said from the start, the Affordable Care Act needs to be fixed. We need to keep what works, improve the parts that do not, and do it in a way that protects Marylanders’ coverage and stops rates from continually skyrocketing. I will support any solution – no matter which side of the aisle it comes from – that helps us reach this outcome.

“Unfortunately, the Graham-Cassidy bill is not a solution that works for Maryland. It will cost our state over \$2 billion annually while directly jeopardizing the health care of our citizens. We need common sense, bipartisan solutions that will stabilize markets and actually expand affordable coverage. It is time for Republicans and Democrats to come together, fix what is so clearly broken, and finally get something done for the American people.”

Children Hospital Association

Statement

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. Furthermore, the legislation weakens important consumer safeguards, and as a result, millions of children in working families would no longer be assured that their private insurance covers the most basic of services without annual and lifetime limits and regardless of any underlying medical condition. This bill would have devastating consequences for children and families.

New Hampshire Governor Sununu

Statement

Governor Chris Sununu Statement on Graham-Cassidy

Concord, NH – Today, Governor Chris Sununu issued the following statement regarding the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill: “While I continue to strongly believe that Obamacare must be reformed, it must be replaced with something that works for New Hampshire. The Graham-Cassidy healthcare plan has some laudable aspects, including offering more flexibility to states in managing Medicaid. Unfortunately, under this plan, New Hampshire could possibly lose over a \$1 billion in Medicaid funding between 2020-2026. While innovative, consumer-driven programs that eliminate waste and provide flexibility is the direction our nation’s health care must go, it is not practical for New Hampshire to craft a system with over \$1 billion in cuts to federal funding. New Hampshire is proud of its tradition of not having an income tax or sales tax and remains vigilant against downshifting of costs onto states that become general fund liabilities. As such, **I cannot support this plan** as it is currently drafted. It is my hope that Congress will continue to improve this plan to earn New Hampshire’s support. If given the opportunity, we stand ready to roll up our sleeves and craft a fiscally responsible system that works for all Granite Staters and does not ask us to subsidize the health care costs of other states.”

AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges)

Statement

Letter

On behalf of the nation’s medical schools and major teaching hospitals, I write to express our strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (GCHJ) proposal currently being circulated, and to urge you to vote against this measure if brought to the Senate floor.

Pennsylvania Governor

Statement

“Providing and protecting health care for all Americans should be a bipartisan effort,” said Governor Wolf. “I am proud to join fellow governors in calling for Senate leadership to improve and stabilize our health insurance markets through bipartisan supported legislation. We must continue to work on protecting the gains we made in Pennsylvania and many other states that have allowed Americans to access affordable health care. For Washington to disrupt this process now and proceed out of regular order, the faith of the American people in the federal government would be further eroded.”

Medicare Advocacy Groups

Letter

We are deeply concerned that the latest amendment to H.R.1628, like its predecessors, puts the availability of affordable health coverage and care for older Americans and people with disabilities at risk. As with previous versions of H.R. 1628—the American Health Care Act and the Better Care Reconciliation Act—the Graham- Cassidy bill would dramatically diminish the benefits that near retirees and people with disabilities receive from the coverage expansions and consumer protections advanced through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Statement

“The new proposal by Senators Graham and Cassidy is not just another attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act – it is actually the worst effort thus far to deny Americans affordable health care.

“Compared to past repeal plans, this one will cause the largest number of individuals and families yet to lose their health care. It will result in the greatest cost to states who did the right thing by expanding Medicaid. It is also the most blatant effort to block women from accessing quality reproductive care, deny coverage to those with pre-existing conditions – and the list of horrific offenses against the health of the American people goes on and on.

American Academy of Pediatrics (9/20/17)

Statement

"The American Academy of Pediatrics urges the Senate to oppose the Graham-Cassidy proposal, and instead turn to bipartisan solutions that are crafted in the best interest of children and families, like the Children's Health Insurance Program and Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, which both expire next week. Pediatricians will continue to focus on the children we care for as this process unfolds, and we will not stop speaking up on their behalf until we see legislation that puts them first."

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) 9/20/17

Press Release

This bill is a catastrophe for people with disabilities.

Graham-Cassidy severely damages the programs and policies that people with disabilities rely on to stay healthy and to live freely.

Blue Cross of Massachusetts

Statement

"As the Senate continues its efforts on health care reform, we have serious concerns about the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation, which calls for significant cuts to Medicaid and contains provisions that would allow states to remove protections for those with pre-existing conditions.

The bill would destabilize state insurance markets and undermine the ability to provide quality, affordable coverage and care to everyone, regardless of condition. As a nation, we've reached a historically high insured rate among our citizens – this bill has the potential to jeopardize these meaningful gains in coverage.

This legislation would also affect Massachusetts disproportionately, by significantly reducing critical federal funding to support the Commonwealth's continued commitment to universal health care coverage. By some estimates, our state's federal funding could be cut by more than \$5 billion by 2026. The targeting of specific states puts politics over policy at the expense of those most in need of care. We urge our elected leaders to continue working in a bipartisan spirit toward legislation that promotes access to high-quality, affordable care."

New Jersey Hospital Association (9/19/17)

Statement

Letter

In a letter to the congressional delegation today, NJHA said the measure would have a devastating impact on New Jersey healthcare services. NJHA also is concerned that there has been no analysis of the measure from the Congressional Budget Office to determine the number of people who would lose coverage and the impact on insurance premiums.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) (9/20)

Analysis

It 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.

Familys USA

Analysis

The Graham-Cassidy proposal will undermine state Medicaid programs and put taxpayers at risk for funding other state programs. Fitch Ratings issued a release stating, “Negative implications for entities that rely on state support, including school districts, cities, counties, and public higher education institutions could be more significant given their generally more constrained budgetary flexibility.”

National Association of Medicaid Directors

Statement

The Board of Directors of the National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD) urges Congress to carefully consider the significant challenges posed by the Graham-Cassidy legislation. State Medicaid Directors are strong proponents of state innovation in the drive towards health care system transformation. 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.

National Council for Behavioral Health

Statement

We implore Senators to focus on the bipartisan efforts underway and ignore this politically-driven effort to rush a devastating bill through the Senate without time for debate and consideration of the impact on states and constituents.

The American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL)

Statement

“There is no question that this bill will undermine care for vulnerable seniors and individuals with disabilities who rely on Medicaid for their daily long term care. Most of the one million people who reside in nursing centers rely on Medicaid, as well as tens of thousands of seniors in America’s assisted living communities.

American Academy of Family Physicians

American College of Physicians

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American Osteopathic Association

American Psychiatric Association

Statement

Our organizations, which represent over 560,000 physicians, oppose the new Graham-Cassidy bill and its approach to reforming our health care system. The proposal fails to protect the health care coverage and consumer protections available under current law. Additionally, it would create a health care system built on state-by-state variability that would exacerbate inequities in coverage and most likely place millions of vulnerable individuals at risk of losing their health care coverage.

Federation of American Hospitals

Statement

The Graham-Cassidy proposal could disrupt access to health care for millions of the more than 70 million Americans who depend on Medicaid and the marketplaces for their health coverage.

It is time to move on to secure the health coverage for those who have it, and find solutions for those who don’t. We urge the Senate to reject legislation that fails to move us forward in assuring Americans access to affordable health care and coverage.

Catholic Health Association of the United States

Statement

In addition, funding cuts and structural changes to the traditional Medicaid program would inflict permanent and far-reaching damage on communities and lead to coverage losses for millions of our nation’s most vulnerable populations. Caps and block grants simply shift the cost burden onto local and state governments, individual beneficiaries and health providers. States will be unable to make up for the estimated \$175 billion in Medicaid cuts over 10 years.

Thank you for all your efforts to preserve health care coverage for the millions of people across our country. [A sample letter is available for your use in contacting the Senate](#), and we will provide more information about the legislation in the next [Washington Update](#).

Alliance of Community Health Plans

Letter

On behalf of the 19 million Americans and the communities we serve, I write to express our profound disappointment that bipartisan efforts to stabilize our health care system have been halted. The Graham- Cassidy-Heller-Johnson legislation being considered by the Senate would jeopardize the health of millions of working Americans and we cannot support the bill.

The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We encompass all ages and more than 100 different diagnoses including autism, Down syndrome, Fragile X syndrome, and various other developmental disabilities.

Statement

“Many of the provisions in this legislation are the same or worse than what we encountered earlier this year, which shows that the architects of this bill are still ignoring the pleas of their constituents with disabilities. The talking points sugar coat it, but the reality is simple – under this proposal less money would be available despite the fact the needs of people who rely on Medicaid have not decreased. The Arc remains staunchly opposed to legislation that includes per capita caps or block granting of Medicaid. We need Members of Congress to find a solution that actually takes into consideration the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities,” said Peter Berns, CEO of the The Arc.

Consumers Union

Statement

Graham-Cassidy’s plan would eliminate the Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid expansion funding and Marketplace subsidies, replacing them with block grants whose distribution formula means that states with the most consumers at risk of losing coverage would be the most deeply impacted. These block grant would not keep up with the rate of healthcare inflation and would gradually phase out by 2026. The plan would also change Medicaid’s current federal state financial partnership to a per capita cap—a deep cut to Medicaid that threatens healthcare for seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, military families and 30 million children, among others.

Nevada Governor

Statement

I know that Senator Heller is working in the best interest of the state and I appreciate the intended flexibility created in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller amendment which would distribute healthcare funding via block grants. State experts will continue to work with our federal partners, specifically with Senator Heller’s office, on ideas to improve Nevada’s healthcare market. I continue to believe the framework authored by bipartisan Governors is the best path to improve our healthcare system but will continue to work with Senator Heller on healthcare solutions for the state of Nevada.”

Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association

Policy Alert

Senator Murkowski is once again is a key vote on this legislation. ASHNHA continues to work with both of our Senators to communicate concerns about the bill and share data and information about the impacts of the legislation. We are in daily contact with our Senate offices and our advocacy partners.

Arizona Hospital Association

Letter

Today, the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association (AzHHA) announced its formal opposition to the “Graham-Cassidy” legislation, the latest congressional effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. AzHHA President and CEO Greg Vigdor issued the following statement

Louisiana Budget Project

Statement

The plan would eliminate the ACA Medicaid expansion, which covers 437,000 Louisianans. It would also eliminate tax credits that help 122,000 moderate-income Louisiana residents afford marketplace coverage and subsidies that help low-income residents with out-of-pocket health costs like copays. “The public, experts across the political spectrum, and groups representing patients, hospitals, physicians, seniors, people with disabilities and others have forcefully and repeatedly rejected this misguided approach,” Moller said. “It’s time to focus on bipartisan solutions that strengthen – rather than weaken — our health care system.”

American Federation of Teachers

Statement

The Graham-Cassidy bill is being sold as a compromise—but it's not. It's just as bad as every form of Trumpcare that we've seen so far and, once again, favors the powerful over the vulnerable. This bill would strip millions of their healthcare, increase premiums for working families, deny coverage for pre-existing conditions and punish states that expanded Medicaid.

National Education Association

Statement

GOP Senate leaders are making a last-ditch attempt to repeal and “replace” the Affordable Care Act, commonly called Obamacare. They must act by September 30. Like the ACA replacements the Senate rejected in July, the Graham-Cassidy bill guts the Medicaid program. Schools could lose \$4 billion a year and millions of kids could lose health care they need to learn and thrive — Medicaid covers 40 percent of all children and 60 percent of children with disabilities and special needs. The Graham-Cassidy bill also threatens to undermine the bipartisan effort to renew the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), whose funding expires September 30. Like the previous terrible Senate bills, Graham-Cassidy was crafted behind closed doors with no hearings, no input from the American people, and no input from the majority of senators from either party. And it reneges on the promise to deliver better, less costly health coverage for all Americans.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Deb Pusinelli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham - Cassidy Health Care bill

Good Morning,

I am writing this email to voice my concern about the Graham Cassidy Health Care bill. I hope this inhumane legislation is never enacted. My concerns are as follows:

Destroys Medicaid:

- It destroys Medicaid as we know it by fundamentally and permanently transforming the funding for the program into a capped system,
- The caps limit how much federal money states have to spend on Medicaid limits coverage, access, and states' options when more people need coverage, which could mean people go without coverage,
- Caps to Medicaid could mean the elderly are kicked out of nursing homes - elderly account for 2/3 the cost of medicaid.
- The bill takes money from states that expanded Medicaid and gives it to states that did not, which simply makes no sense whatsoever outside as a carrot for senators from those states to vote for the bill.
- It puts undue pressure on states without guidelines and expectations.

Destroys Pre-Existing Condition Protections

- The bill eliminates protections for people with pre-existing conditions - even if your state makes a law that pre-existing conditions will be covered, insurance companies will just pull out and focus on states with no such law.
- The new tax breaks for HSAs may cause employers to just put tax-free money into these HSAs and stop offering their staff health insurance all-together. This means that those with pre-existing conditions who rely on employer insurance could find themselves without insurance on the open market.
- The law eliminates protections against life-time max in the same way it does pre-existing conditions.

Discrimination Against Women

- The bill has total prohibition on any covered insurance plans (those eligible for employer tax breaks) from offering abortion coverage - this could be life-threatening for many women.
- Bars women Medicaid from Planned Parenthood.
- Does not require insurance to cover maternity care or birth control.


No CBO Score

- Independent groups estimate a huge price tag for this bill as well as millions being kicked off insurance.
- No bill, regardless of subject matter, should be up for a vote until the CBO has scored the legislation.
- The CBO will not have estimates relating to this legislation for weeks.

Please have compassion and put an end to this bill.

Thank You,

Debbie Pusinelli


Western Springs Il 60558

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer Goodman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:39 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: VOTE NO In Order To Save My Disabled Child's Benefits

To Whom it May Concern;

My daughter was born with two congenital heart defects, required open heart surgery at two weeks old, had a massive stroke and spent two months in the Cardiac ICU before coming home. Her hospital bills were over \$1,000,000. If pre-existing conditions are not covered by insurance, she will never have a fighting chance for healthcare. Since then, she has required physical, occupational and speech therapies in addition to losing much of her hearing and needing hearing aids, which she will need for the rest of her life (and they are not covered by insurance, by the way.) If Medical Assistance or Medicaid is cut or defunded, she will not be able to afford hearing aids or other hearing technology and will be without access to speech or language. How can she learn in school or college without hearing what teachers are saying? How can she contribute to society in a meaningful way without one of her five senses intact? She requires ongoing cardiac care and has already exceeded the lifetime max of some insurance plans. Please find another way to accomplish your objective without cutting essential services for the most vulnerable Americans.

Regards,

Jennifer Goodman
Senior Director of Quality and Regulatory Affairs

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: alanscottb [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please Vote No!

Dear Sir/Madam:

I'm writing to you with a very simple act regarding a very complex matter... Please do not accept the Cassidy-Graham bill and vote no.

I love my sister dearly and it pains me to see her in tears and in fear of losing her healthcare. She is amongst millions in the same situation and we must focus on humanity and not our coffers.

Thank you...
Scotty

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: J Reath [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:38 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Unacceptable

This proposed bill should not be considered acceptable to anyone. Every major health organization opposes it. Stripping millions of people of the health coverage they need to survive is deplorable. I can't even put into words how opposed I am to this bill.

Jessica Reath
[REDACTED]
APO, AE 09630

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kathy Halley [redacted] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am against this bill. It will impact many very negatively and is not well thought out.
Katherine Halley. Sauk City, WI 53583

Sent from my iPad. K. Halley

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy health bill

The above health bill will ruin the lives of people with pre-existing conditions and those on Medicaid not to mention lost of preventive health benefits that allow people to prevent medical problems.

This bill will directly affect my son who has been healthy his 36 years and was hit by surprise with bone cancer in July. His insurance as is, is inadequate but destroying ACA will raise his premiums, and out of pocket cost beyond what he can not afford. You will make a self sufficient person into one dependent upon the government for assistance, prevent him from earning a living thereby the government will lose his taxes.

Throwing people off Medicaid will proportional affect seniors who only have this method to pay for nursing homes and their necessary drugs etc.

DO NOT APPROVE THIS BILL...it is cruel and hateful

Suzan Roll

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leon Barzin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Requesting More Data and Regular Order

The only scoring info so far has been from the Brookings Institute: "Based on this analysis, we estimate that the Graham-Cassidy legislation would reduce the number of people with insurance coverage by around 21 million each year during the 2020 through 2026 period."

This is not acceptable - healthcare should be a right of American citizenship and should be increasing in the number of souls covered - the ACA is well down this pathway and should be fixed and sustained rather than repealed.

Thank you,

Leon Barzin

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: June Pekrol <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say no to Graham Cassidy

I am writing about the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill for changes to the ACA. Surely by every measure, this is not a good bill.

Firstly, I ask Congress not to hold a vote on this bill that will affect 1/6 of the American economy without a CBO score. How can you vote on proposed legislation without fully understanding how it will impact the lives of Americans?

Secondly, I am very concerned about language in the bill that allows states to loosen protections for pre-existing conditions. My family will be directly affected by this provision, as my husband is in remission from stage 4 cancer. We will not be able to afford the extra costs being predicted for his care, and will be effectively priced out of healthcare. In fact, our effort to keep him well, will no doubt bankrupt us.

Thirdly, I am distressed that monies to Medicaid will be reduced so drastically, making costs for seniors and the disabled to skyrocket.

From what I read, this bill does not bring healthcare to more Americans - in fact, it is predicted that upwards of 30 million will lose their existing coverage. And, like before the ACA, people have to choose between eating and getting healthcare. People will die.

In conclusion, I find this proposed bill to be heartless and mean. It really is just a way for the GOP to pay for tax cuts. Rather than helping our fellow man, it is a bill that will hurt the most vulnerable in our population.

Please do not pass the Graham/ Cassidy bill. Instead, please return to regular order. Let's work on improving the existing law with bipartisan committees, and a vote that requires all of Congress to work together for a solution.

Thank you.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Anna Hollis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: How the Graham-Cassidy Bill Would Be A Travesty

I depend on ACA for insurance due to preexisting conditions. Before ACA, I was turned down for health insurance. The Graham-Cassidy bill would either not cover preexisting conditions if the state did not opt to and/or would make coverage completely unaffordable to the majority of Americans including myself. In addition, many vital preventative/health services would no longer be covered.

In essence, this bill will equate to a death sentence for many Americans who will no longer be able to access or afford health insurance. Millions of Americans would lose our healthcare.

Americans should not have to continue to beg our representatives repeatedly to stop trying to kill us. The opposition to this bill is clear from constituents as well as medical organizations. Voters WILL remember who voted for us to die.

Anna Hollis, Ph.D., NCSP
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michelle Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

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

The struggle with affordability due to a lack of employer provided healthcare is real.

In addition, I believe that my mother died while waiting for insurance to be sorted out. She was stuck between a previous employer and being eligible for Medicare. It has to be simpler. Changing the system on us so frequently makes it impossible for us to use, understand, and pay for the coverage.

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

Sincerely,

--

Michelle J. Smith
Bloomington, Indiana

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Leena George [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: In opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family demographics, I am 38 with diabetes, Husband 39 with hypertension, son with down syndrome. YOUR unethical bill is NOT a way to help people with pre existing condition. PLEASE STOP THE POLITICS with people's lives. If I'm paying for healthcare it should be available to me whenever I and my family members need it without a cap. NOT everyone is able to afford healthcare in the first place. Please work towards bettering human kind than to fill your own pockets.

I am proposing this bill does not pass through any areas to become a standard.

Leena George
Ashland, Massachussetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Robert Hunt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Congratulations

The GOP has found a way to make it obvious to the entire nation that they have no interest in protecting the health or reducing the cost of care for an entire nation when their donor's demand otherwise. The only good thing about this bill is that exposes the Republican Party for the sad, greed mongering, profiteering enabling corporation that it really is, and not an organization that is fit to govern any first world nation.

I am wondering just how much money it will take to buy the votes of the non-wealthy, even whites in 2018 when the premiums go up, or their families and friends start dying.

Hoping enough people in that party have enough compassion and common sense left to stop a bill opposed by almost every major group involved in the healthcare industry.

Robert Hunt

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kincanon, Lynn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Against the Graaham/Cassidy Bill

Today, 11:28 AM

GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

...

Dear Senators

I am completely against this bill, it stands against the American People. I disagree with all it stands for and all it will do to decimate the healthcare system. I stand with the ANA, the AMA and all other healthcare groups that stand against this.

I have been a nurse then a NP for the last 30 years! I know more than most the cost of healthcare, both financially and physically. I am not sure exactly what planet you are living on, or what country you are from but we have the most expensive and least fair health care delivery in the free world. Please vote NO. I vote NO. What is this all about? Money for you? Donations for You? Certainly not the health and well being of the American people who are struggling to survive!

Sincerely

Lynn Kincanon ANP-BC
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Emily Short [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, 9/25/2017

Finance Committee,

Emily Short
[REDACTED]

Chicago, IL 60613

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am outraged by the Senate's most recent attempt to dismantle the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and strip health insurance from millions of people. With the Cassidy-Graham proposal, cost sharing subsidies would be cut, Medicaid would be slashed and Planned Parenthood is targeted again for providing critical health services to low-income women. This is yet another blatant attack on women of color and reproductive justice. These attacks are of particular concern to Asian Americans. Specifically, the bill would harm AAPI women by:

Repeal of the ACA would push coverage out of reach for AAPI women, exacerbating health disparities.

Eight million Asian-Americans now have coverage for preventive services without cost sharing. Between 2010 and 2015, the uninsured rate among Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) fell by more than seven percent. Over 2 million Asian-Americans gained coverage under the ACA, giving more AAPI women coverage for preventive services without cost sharing.

Cancer is the leading cause of death for AAPI communities, and the cervical cancer incidence rate is higher in several Asian-American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) subgroups than in non-Hispanic whites. For instance, the incidence rate is twice as high in Cambodians as in non-Hispanic whites, and 40 percent higher among Vietnamese women. Coverage for preventive services without cost sharing removes barriers to care, enabling AAPI women to access essential health care like cancer screenings.

Attacks on the ACA's important protection for people with pre-existing conditions would further exacerbate health disparities for AAPI women.

Other health conditions, like the Hepatitis B virus (HBV), were also considered pre-existing conditions prior to the ACA.[i] Chronic HBV affects about 1.3 million people in the United States, and AAPIs account for over half of the chronic hepatitis B cases and resulting deaths.[ii] AAPI women are 20 percent more likely to die from viral hepatitis as compared to non-Hispanic whites.[iii]

Defunding planned parenthood from the Medicaid program jeopardizes AAPI women's access to critically important health care.

Planned Parenthood health centers are a lifeline for quality health care for underserved communities. Fifty-four percent of Planned Parenthood health centers are in underserved areas. In 21 percent of counties with a Planned Parenthood health center, Planned Parenthood is the only safety-net family planning provider, and in 68 percent of counties with a Planned Parenthood health center, Planned Parenthood serves at least half of all safety-net family planning patients.

Attacks on the Medicaid program would take away health care from hundreds of thousands of AAPI women

Nearly one-fifth (19 percent) of AAPI women are enrolled in the Medicaid program. The program is particularly important for Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander women.[i] For example, 62 percent of Bhutanese women, 43 percent of Hmong women and 32 percent of Pakistani women currently receive their insurance through Medicaid.[ii]

Increasing cost sharing and premiums hit AAPI women hardest because of gender and race-based wage gaps.

While Asian-American women as a whole earn 87 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men, Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander women experience some of the widest wage gaps compared to other racial and ethnic groups. For example, Burmese and Marshallese women make only 44 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men.

I encourage you to use this information and highlight the negative impacts that Graham-Cassidy will have on the lives of AAPI women in your opposition to this extremely harmful bill.

Emily Short



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mia [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:32 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: I oppose the Graham/Cassidy Bill

This is a scam and only a tax break for the wealthy. It will GUT important government programs. I oppose this bill.

Mia Tuttavilla
A United States Taxpayer!
Stop the republicans! They are only a divide and conquer party.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

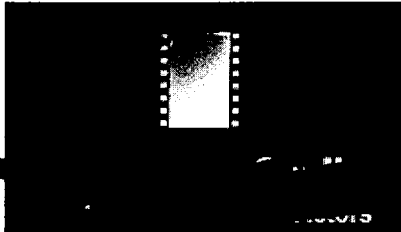
From: Scott Rogers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Please put a stop to this horrible bill! The ACA needs to be fixed not repealed. Please help the American people! Vote "NO" on the Graham/Cassidy Healthcare debacle!!

=====

Scott Rogers

[REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Web Site: [REDACTED]
National Board Member, SAG-AFTRA [REDACTED]
Follow us on Twitter: [REDACTED]
Like us on FaceBook: [REDACTED]



"This message is created by the sender independently and not by SAG-AFTRA. Any opinion expressed is solely that of the sender and does not reflect any opinion, position or policy of SAG-AFTRA."

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: J Bowman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

In a few words: NO!

Followed by a few more words: This is the most insane bill that intelligent (?) Congress has come up with. We, The People, have not gotten hit with stupid sticks.

Best regards.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marcy Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to object to the passage of the Graham-Cassidy "health care" bill. It's a hollow tax break for the Kochs, Walton, and Mars families. It doesn't have a CBO score and all major health organizations oppose it. All 50 state insurance commissioners object as well - a bipartisan group that rarely agrees on anything. Look, during the campaign we were promised we'd get more coverage, everyone would be included, our premiums would go down. This bill does not tackle ANY of these issues. It amounts to 'legislation without representation'. Awful.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joanna Rock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: <no subject>

This healthcare bill is an abomination. Excluding the people who need health insurance the most. Some of these sick people paid into health insurance as healthy people for YEARS and are now going to be cut out despite having contributed to the pool. This simply can't be allowed to pass, particularly while Congress continues to exclude itself and have top notch health insurance, paid for by the people.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jeanine Botsko [REDACTED]m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to Gram/Case Trump

This bill is abysmal completely and unacceptable. Leaving people without insurance is not OK. T9 people life-saving healthcare is unforgivable. Taking away the opportunity for preventative care only makes things more expensive for everyone. Please vote no do not let this horrendous bill pass.

Warmest regards,
Jeanine Kelly
Stonington CT

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carson Kreitzer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Committee:

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state, 90 seconds of debate? If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill.

I am a freelance worker with asthma as a pre-existing condition. This bill is dangerous and would be incredibly damaging for the American people.

thank you,

Carson Kreitzer

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Laurna Strikwerda [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:18 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Statement opposing Graham-Cassidy

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will strip health care coverage from millions of people, make cuts to Medicaid, and remove protections for people with pre-existing conditions. This legislation should not move forward. I have family members with pre-existing conditions who were not able to have insurance before the Affordable Care Act. Please move forward on bipartisan solutions to ensuring coverage rather than taking away coverage from millions of Americans.

Thank you,
Laurna Strikwerda

Washington, DC

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Aldonacarney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

My name is Aldona Carney & I have a beautiful 22 year old son with severe autism. Neil is functionally nonverbal, so I'm his voice, but he is my heart. He is the face of Medicaid. He requires 24/7 round the clock care for his health & safety. The Graham-Cassidy bill would decimate services for people with intellectual & developmental disabilities. We have worked so hard to include people like my son into the community. Please let us keep these wonderful people in the community & not revert back to institutions. I'm asking & begging for you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please keep those least amongst us in mind and do what is morally right to protect the I/DD community.

Sincerely, Aldona Carney
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Debbie Horn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I vehemently oppose this bill. THANK YOU for your consideration to my opinion. DEBRA HORN

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Martha Bridegam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please save Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am an Affordable Care Act consumer. I work for a small business owned by an Affordable Care Act consumer who has a family member with a serious preexisting condition. I have volunteered long-term to advocate for and support a neighbor living on SSI who receives ongoing treatment for several chronic conditions thanks to Medicaid. She has a needed surgery scheduled this fall, thanks to Medicaid.

If you destroyed the existing system and jammed it into block grants you would harm me and everyone I've just mentioned, and millions more people.

And as you know well, what block grants do is to turn people who have medical needs and/or consciences into crabs in a barrel. When you force good people to decide who will lose necessary care, you inflict moral injury. That is doing harm even before the deprivations themselves start to cause physical suffering.

Our existing medical insurance system is very far from perfect but it is the best we have. It would not help anyone if you were to ball it up and throw it away, which is what Graham-Cassidy would do.

Lives are at stake. If Graham-Cassidy replaces our existing health system, real bona fide human Americans will die of illnesses and injuries because they cannot get care -- or because they choose to sacrifice their own care in order to preserve their families' savings.

As a bare minimum, I hope you agree that all of the American public is worth keeping alive.

Please don't destroy our health care. I can't believe we even have to ask this. But please don't destroy our health care.

Thank you,

Martha Bridegam

San Francisco, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sue Gertz (Gmail) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Disgraceful Health Care Attempt

I REJECT it and will work to defeat hideous uncaring senators who vote for it! DEFEAT

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Linda Pehlke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Don't Cut Medicaid

As a disabled woman, I am just barely getting by. I didn't choose to get sick, and yet, my serious chronic illness has prevented me from working since my mid-thirties. I live as cheaply as I can, and yet I know that once I lose my disability benefits (when I turn 65) I will need Medicaid, as do millions of other low-income, elderly and disabled Americans. Don't sentence these folks to untold suffering and death, just to make the Koch Brothers and other wealthy donors happy. In the end, the immorality of such an act will be exposed.

Sincerely,

Linda Pehlke, Brookline, MA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Joyce Harlan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:17 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

This cruel bill must NOT be passed - it will leave millions of our most vulnerable citizens without the health care they have been receiving under the ACA.

This is NOT who we are as a country.

Joyce Harlan

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bruce Daniels <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

I'm an informed citizen of the United States, and I want to continue having my health insurance. I have a pre existing condition that before ACA, I could not have afforded it with my old insurance. If you pass this and repeal ACA, I will lose my insurance eventually. My pre existing condition is pretty minor but I know that millions will lose their insurance if ACA is repealed and replaced with the Graham Cassidy bill.
Please consider the all of the citizens of this country.

Allen Daniels
Los Angeles, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

My name is Donesh Olyaie and I am an American citizen residing in California.

While I do not support a repeal of the ACA I also understand a desire by many Americans and most Republican representatives to reconsider aspects of the law. I encourage the Senate to do so in regular session following the order of the Senate and inviting all Senators to cooperate in finding a solution.

I recognize that partisanship runs particularly strong at the Capitol but both houses have demonstrated the ability to work in a bipartisan manner in recent years and I cannot see how something as significant as this would not be afforded the opportunity. Eliminating some aspects of the law without any regard to how it affects the larger bill is tantamount to complete destruction--something that is not acceptable and has already been voted down or denied votes in the first place. Please do not jam a broken thing through with the hopes that it be fixed in conference or, even worse, forced on America's poor and sick.

Donesh Olyaie
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Kincanon, Lynn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments

Dear Senators

I am completely against this bill, it is against the American People. I disagree with all it stands for and all it will do to decimate the healthcare system. I stand with the ANA, the AMA and all other healthcare groups that stand against this.

I have been a nurse then a NP for the last 30 years! I know more than most the cost of healthcare, both financially and physically. I am not sure exactly what planet you are living on, or what country you are from but we have the most expensive and least fair health care delivery in the free world. Please vote NO. I vote NO. What is this all about? Money for you? Donations for You? Certainly not the health and well being of the American people who are struggling to survive!

Sincerely

Lynn Kincanon ANP-BC
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Trish Grand [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy repealing Medicaid Expansion. I live in New Mexico one of the poorest states in the country and where 55% of the residents access health care through Medicaid, without Medicaid in this state thousands would die every year from diseases that could easily be prevented because they would not have access to care or would be forced between paying their housing or food bills before seeking care.

Everyone of you sitting there making this decision will never have to face these choices because you have guaranteed care for the rest of your life given your appointment, what would you do if that was taken away? What if you lost your job because you lived in a state with a poor economy?

Please pay more attention to the things that you are approving and the impact it will have on the people who you are supposed to serve.

Sincerely
Patricia Grand
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: will rogers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare

Do not pass the current Healthcare bill. It is unfair to millions of people including myself..

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nancy krewson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill NO!

The GOP is losing all credibility and voters. I was a lifelong Repub. voter, but lost faith.

Two members of my family were very pleased with ACA.

One contracted Lyme disease years ago and was COMPLETELY CURED, but this is still "pre-existing" condition which is totally unfair. Just starting a career, NO WAY can that person afford projected premiums.

Please vote NO on the ridiculous Graham Cassidy and similar efforts. ACA is a good program and should be fixed, not repealed. Uninsured people would flood emergency rooms and that leads to higher costs for all of us, including you.

Please represent the majority of citizens, medical institutions and common sense and just vote NO, take a break until bi-partisan fixes can be discussed. This is hurting everyone running as a Republican as I keep hearing people say "I'll never vote for ANY Repub. again".

Thanks for listening,
N. Krewson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: nancy krewson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill NO!

The GOP is losing all credibility and voters. I was a lifelong Repub. voter, but lost faith.

Two members of my family were very pleased with ACA.

One contracted Lyme disease years ago and was COMPLETELY CURED, but this is still "pre-existing" condition which is totally unfair. Just starting a career, NO WAY can that person afford projected premiums.

Please vote NO on the ridiculous Graham Cassidy and similar efforts. ACA is a good program and should be fixed, not repealed. Uninsured people would flood emergency rooms and that leads to higher costs for all of us, including you.

Please represent the majority of citizens, medical institutions and common sense and just vote NO, take a break until bi-partisan fixes can be discussed. This is hurting everyone running as a Republican as I keep hearing people say "I'll never vote for ANY Repub. again".

Thanks for listening,
N. Krewson

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gwynn Kayahli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy "health care" bill.

This bill would be terrible for America. Please do all you can to stop it.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marlene Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

Please don't repeal anything until we (the people) are informed of the just what the hell Graham -Cassidy contains. It has been such a rushed, secretive bill. Appears the main objective is the repeal, not the health of millions.
LISTEN.... DON'T PASS THIS BILL!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Carol Benioff [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

I am now on Medicare, but prior to ACA I was unable to get insurance on my own because of 2 pre-existing conditions.

There is a silver tsunami coming our way that no one is addressing. How will we care for our aging population, where a good percentage of them will need daily assistance. My partner who died last year, needed 24/7 care the last 2 and half years of his life. We managed to cobble together the funds with help from our families and wiping his funds and most of my retirement funds. He was on a wait list for over 2 years at 4 nursing homes for a bed; the only way we could get any financial assistance from Medicaid. He was a war baby, not a baby boomer. Medicaid currently pays for most nursing home care, financial help for keeping family members at home (which is less costly and what most people want) is almost non-existent.

The current approach towards medical care is short sighted, inhumane, and will cost far more in the end than a national program that truly addresses the current and upcoming medical needs of the entire population.

Carol Benioff

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Berkeley CA 94710
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Myra Williams [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham Cassidy Bill

This bill is absolutely unacceptable and as a survivor of breast cancer I am fearful of legislation that will restrict my ability and that of other people with preexisting conditions to receive affordable healthcare. In addition, the apparent financial depredations that are being pursued by this bill and congress in general are disgraceful.

Respectfully submitted
Myra Williams
Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sheila Gibson Stoodley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Please reject the Cassidy/Graham health care bill

Dear all on the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask the Senate to vote against the Cassidy/Graham bill.

It is mind-bendingly irresponsible to vote for a bill that lacks a Congressional Budget Office score and would also remake one-sixth of the country's economy in a stroke.

Senator John McCain is correct about the need to follow regular order.

Regular order is not a nicety. This is not about making sure your pinky finger is raised when you sip tea.

It's about taking the necessary care when crafting legislation that could, and likely would, hurt or kill tens of millions of people if it passes.

Please find the courage to do the right thing.

Sincerely

Sheila Gibson Stoodley

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Hall RN [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Susan Hall
Subject: Susan Hall's comments on GCH Amendment

Dear Finance

This GCH amendment is atrocious . It will essentially:

- 1- Remove the 'pre-existing conditions' ban protecting people now in the current ACA.
 - 2- Gut Medicaid to the most vulnerable : Poor & elderly & kids
 - 3-Shift \$\$ to block grants to states which will ultimately lose \$\$ over the next years.
 - 4- This is a cruel amendment that is supported with lies: flow charts and spread sheets that are not true.
- Please read the opinions of the experts below that I have taken from the newspaper coverage.

Speak out against this GCH

Thanks

Susan Hall RN

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

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lauren Thaxton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Committee on Finance:

I am an Ob/Gyn working in New Mexico. I am also a member of Physicians for Reproductive Health, a doctor-led national advocacy organization that uses evidence-based medicine to promote sound reproductive health policies. As a physician who cares for individuals who benefit from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) every day, I respectfully write to voice my opposition to the efforts to repeal the ACA, including the most recently proposed Graham Cassidy bill.

Access to care is a huge issue in my state. I have seen first hand the benefits of the Affordable Care Act including access to critical women's health services such as well-woman visits, contraception without cost-sharing, and maternity care.

I am gravely concerned that this repeal bill, like others before it, would push health care access out of reach for many of my patients. The proposed bill includes bans on abortion coverage in private plans, bars Medicaid recipients from accessing preventive care at Planned Parenthood, and dramatically changes the vital Medicaid program, potentially leaving millions of my patients with the greatest need without health care coverage. I am also deeply concerned that the bill is being moved forward without a full scoring from the Congressional Budget Office to fully understand the financial impact of the bill and estimates of how many people will lose coverage. It is for these reasons that I join the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Public Health Association, the American Hospital Association, and countless other health care professionals in opposing this hasty, harmful repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

When it comes to something as serious as health care, my patients deserve coverage that meets their needs – not politics. I sincerely hope that any further examination of our health care system, including changes to the ACA, are considered through the deliberative, bipartisan process that such weighty legislation deserves. I further hope that any future legislation to change or repeal the Affordable Care Act would involve the input of the medical community, who have not been consulted as part of this repeal process despite the dozens of medical organizations that have voiced their opposition to this devastating legislation.

As a health care provider who sees the benefits of the Affordable Care Act every day in my practice, I add my voice to the chorus of health care professionals and medical organizations that oppose this legislation. My patients deserve for Congress to work together to ensure that all Americans have the best health care programs possible, not proposals that would increase premiums and cost millions of people their health insurance. I therefore ask you to reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

Lauren Thaxton

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Lea Cline <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:30 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Say NO to the GRAHAM-CASSIDY Bill

Dear Senators,

Please reject the Graham-Cassidy Bill. The ramifications for women, veterans, seniors, people with preexisting condition, children, and those on Medicare would be irreversible and drastic. Even members of the GOP admit that the bill is terrible but that they will vote for it because they have to say that they 'repealed Obamacare.' But do you really want to hurt millions of people because of a stupid campaign promise?

Dr. Lea Cline

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Boonstra [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gchcr.org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Adam Sonfield; Kinsey Hasstedt
Subject: Guttmacher Statement on Graham-Cassidy Proposal
Attachments: 9.25.17 Senate Finance Hearing re Graham Cassidy Proposal_Guttmacher Institute Statement.pdf

We are grateful for the opportunity to submit the attached statement on behalf of the Guttmacher Institute in opposition to H.R. 1628, the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act and overhaul the Medicaid program, on which a hearing is being held before the Senate Committee on Finance on September 25.

Through our work as a nonprofit research and policy organization committed to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States and globally, the Guttmacher Institute has developed and analyzed considerable evidence on the need for and benefits of affordable, comprehensive health insurance coverage that people can use to obtain high-quality reproductive health services at nearby, trusted providers.

Many of the Institute's relevant research and policy analyses, along with those of other experts in the field, are addressed in a series of recent articles linked below for your review:

- [Why Protecting Medicaid Means Protecting Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)
- [How Dismantling the ACA's Marketplace Coverage Would Impact Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)
- [No One Benefits If Women Lose Coverage for Maternity Care](#)
- [What Is at Stake with the Federal Contraceptive Coverage Guarantee?](#)
- [Conservatives Are Using the American Health Care Act to Restrict Private Insurance from Covering Abortion](#)
- [Beyond the Rhetoric: The Real-World Impact of Attacks on Planned Parenthood and Title X](#)

We hope you find these policy analyses and the attached statement with additional detail helpful. We are also mailing the attached statement for formal inclusion in the record.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Heather

Heather Boonstra

[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: M.E. Bonissimo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:29 PM
To: gchcomments; M.E. Bonissimo
Subject: ACA Repeal and Replace - Blatant GENOCIDE UPON AMERICA - Senate sponsored: G E
N O C I D E !!!!!

What you are doing now is GENOCIDE UPON UNITED STATES CITIZENS..... GENOCIDE AMERICAN STYLE!

I find it abhorrent that YOU the representatives of the nation have made it your goal to commit GENOCIDE UPON AMERICANS because it is more important to you to defeat the so called OBAMA CARE or ACA because McConnell had a racist hard-on towards President Obama – The Black President, and he had to see to destroy anything and everything he did for the nation.

YOU- SENATORS HAVE FAILED FOR 8 ½ years to come up with a feasible health plan and in a mad rush, because Trump, the buffoon in the White House throws a racist temper tantrum, and in a dare upon your weaknesses you feel you have to kowtow to his whims.

At 75 years old, and with 57 years contribution towards my Social Security and my Medicare I find myself ageing and seeing the possibility that the states will now dictate whether I live or die. I have a pre-existing condition which was contained in my genes, so it was impossible for me to modify my body to never have the genes show up at my old age. It is preposterous that your contempt is dictating over, purporting to opine upon what nature has willed upon our bodies. Your contempt is beyond comprehension.

You do not fear this consequence because you “are entitled” to the Health Care benefits afforded to you by OUR will, the will of the people who sent you to the Hill to do a representatives job and which you are now using to dictate my death sentence. You are enjoying the best medical care possible upon perpetuity.... How comfortable for you!

If you are making changes to our Health Care benefits they should be that we receive NO-LESS than what YOU GET. What makes you think and believe that you are gods above the citizens who sent you to do a job in Washington, DC.

What you are doing now is GENOCIDE UPON UNITED STATES CITIZENS..... GENOCIDE AMERICAN STYLE! You must desist from passing this legislation. Remember that KARMA will find you and perhaps before then we will vote you out of office in 2018 or 2020. We will exercise our own KARMA on earth.

DON'T FORCE PASSING THIS TREATCHEROUS BILL! You will regret it politically and when KARMA collects. KARMA knows all the pain caused and always collect.

Sincerely!

M. Edna Bon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ash Cutright-Bray <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:13 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: SFC statement



This is what chronic illness looks like for me: eight pills a day, bi-weekly doctor appointments, monthly blood work, and daily pain. I suffer from two anxiety disorders, two reproductive disorders, an auto-immune disorder, and an unlisted condition. Before the ACA, all five of these medications and my IUD totaled \$560 a month, which is more than a month of rent for us. Despite my husband and I both working, I could only afford my monthly anti-anxiety medication at \$45. I couldn't afford therapy or any of the other medications needed to regulate my hormones, red blood cells, platelets, and iron. Thanks to the ACA: my IUD cost us a simple \$25 copay and all five of my medications now total to \$0.50 a month. That is a \$559.50 difference! Thanks to the ACA, for the first time in years, I'm able to obtain therapy and proper medical treatment that allows me to live a relatively normal life.

Yes, the ACA could use some modifications, but to take this life-saving program away from millions of Americans is murder. Please, I urge those of you that benefit from the ACA and/or know someone that does, speak up. Call, email, tweet, or write your senators, urge them to "say no" to Trump's life-ending program. Do not let our corrupt government repeal the ACA. [#resist](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Smay, Jacqueline [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:14 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill: strongly AGAINST

Hello:

I am writing to express my **strong** opposition to the Graham/Cassidy bill's proposed changes to the ACA. No matter how I look at it – as a friend to many people who are self-employed and depend on the ACA for affordable coverage that allows them the freedom to work for themselves, as a friend to many people with preexisting conditions for whom the ACA's guaranteed protections are a literal lifeline, or as someone who has worked as an administrator for one of the nation's top teaching hospitals, serving the most financially and medically fragile among us, for my entire adult life – this is a terrible bill.

Everything about it puts American health and American lives at risk, from the loosening of protections for preexisting conditions, to the predicted loss of coverage for 30 million Americans, to the Medicaid cuts and their effect on the health and lives of seniors and the disabled, to the sheer shortsightedness of pushing through a bill that will affect around 18% of the entire US economy without waiting for the CBO score.

This mean-spirited, fiscally irresponsible, poorly-conceived, hastily-written bill is a disaster – worse, it is a disaster for those Americans who are living just one mishap away from total catastrophe.

PLEASE do not pass Graham/Cassidy.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Jacqueline Smay
Academic Analyst
[Redacted]

*****CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE*****

This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential, proprietary, and/or privileged information protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not use, copy, or distribute this e-mail message or its attachments. If you believe you have received this e-mail message in error, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Suzanne Schwartz <[REDACTED]@m>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. It would undermine Medicaid, and create a situation where people with pre-existing conditions, including children who had cancer, heart conditions, or other diseases, would have to pay more, potentially making health insurance unavailable to them.

Don't let down the American people, especially those most in need. Vote against the Graham Cassidy bill.

Suzanne Schwartz

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alex [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill because it will harm Americans, which goes against the very spirit of our nation.

Sincerely,
Alexandra Johnson
Resident of Massachusetts

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: RAY JOHNSTON [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: DO NOT SUPPORT The Graham-Cassidy health bill

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to emphatically urge you not to support the Graham-Cassidy health bill and consider the harm that this would have to the millions that would lose healthcare coverage. Like it or not the Affordable Care Act has reduced the percentage of Americans without health insurance to a record low. The new proposal replaces direct aid to individuals with block grants to states, and reduces funding relative to current law, and penalizes states that have done a good job of reducing the number of uninsured. Many respectable, non-partisan organizations have warned that this could destabilize markets, including the AMA, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and insurance companies.

Rather than kicking this can down the road for the states to figure out, why don't you come together, do your jobs, and devise a plan that can work for the benefit of all, rather than using rhetoric and scare tactics to appeal to a base that will largely be negatively impacted by this. That would be wholly irresponsible for anyone in your position, and break many more promises to the office you hold than the one to repeal and replace the ACA!

Respectfully,

Raymond Johnston

Swarthmore, PA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Healthcare for all

Good morning. I think Americans have made themselves abundantly clear. We insist we have affordable healthcare. We insist we take care of our people. I am the proud mother of an adult man with autism and intellectual disabilities. I will be forever grateful to Americans for helping me maximize his potential. My son still benefits greatly from American HCBS monies. This money takes care of my son as an adult. He does have a PT job, he does pay taxes, but he needs 24/7 support. I am lucky that I can help my son live independently, while I'm alive, so that he will be OK when I'm not. Please protect all Americans with pre-existing conditions. There should be no profit in loving one another. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan Segal [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

I urge each and every one of you to reject this terrible bill, which would strip millions of Americans of their healthcare, particularly targeting the elderly and disabled. Shame on anyone who puts money before country and votes yes on this. Shore up the ACA while you work on a bi-partisan bill to create an even better healthcare system in America.

Sincerely,

Susan Segal

[REDACTED]
Irvine, CA 92604

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

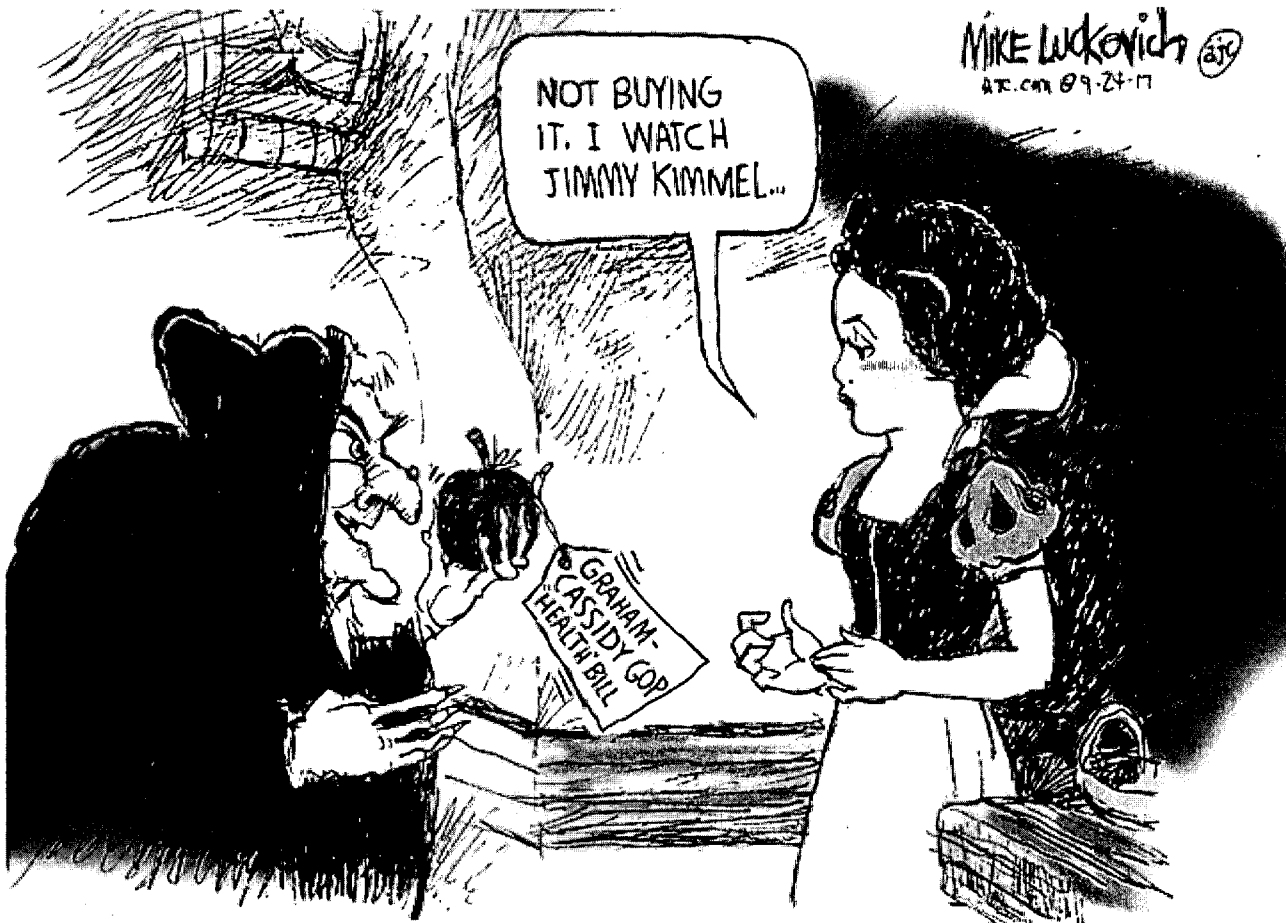
From: Renee Downing [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy is a poisoned apple

Look, I can't tell you that I'll suffer from the bill - I'm lucky enough to be relatively well-off, fully insured, and in fact just hired a concierge physician to take care of my husband, who has complex medical issues.

But I live in Arizona, a state whose leadership is wholly owned by the Koch Brothers and their ilk, and where Obamacare has done a great deal of good. Taking healthcare away from the poor and middle-class people of this state - which is what Governor Ducey and his pals in the legislature will certainly do - They Are Thieves - will reduce the healthcare system to the equivalent of the state-gutted Arizona educational system, which is ranked between 48th and 50th in the nation, depending on which list you look at.

I **want** the federal government running programs in Arizona, because I've lived here for a half-century and I've seen how Arizona does things. (To hell with "Mexicans," to hell with children, to hell with the mentally ill. All that matters here is that the rich get richer, the Mormons get to pack the legislature, and the knuckledraggers get to keep their guns.)

Here's what I have to say about the evil, cruel, cynical Graham-Cassidy Bill, in a nutshell:



Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: André Bollinger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy Trump Care bill is terrible for Americans and I ask you to oppose it. No medical group (doctors, patients or insurers) support it because it would hurt everyone. This is a terrible idea. The promise of repeal is not worth ruin the lives of Americans and saddling states with costs.

We should move forward in a responsible and thought out way on healthcare. It is vital to all Americans and is an incredibly complex field with difficult problems that require thought, debate and compromise.

Oppose Graham-Cassidy.

André Ríos Bollinger

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any errors.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sonya Sobieski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: REJECT THIS BILL

The Affordable Care Act *is* doing good. Don't screw the American people, whom you have been elected to serve.
Thank you.

Sonya Sobieski

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Karen Kohut [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: No to GCH

The Graham-Cassidy repeal and replace bill must be stopped.

The ending of Medicaid expansion, the elimination of basic insurance coverage for broad swaths of our population, and loss of protections for those with pre-existing conditions that would result from the passage of this legislation will leave tens of millions of Americans without essential medical care.

This ill-conceived plan also would hobble U.S. economic growth as citizens would have to dedicate more of their hard-earned income and savings on basic healthcare, spend more of their limited time figuring out increasingly complex insurance plans that have fewer benefits and then having to address their medical crises on their own, and take greater risk of financial ruin when they become the victim of a healthcare crisis--unfortunately from which none of us is immune.

No matter where you reside on the political spectrum, we must come together to fix the broken healthcare system or to create a new way forward. Graham-Cassidy is not the answer. REJECT Graham-Cassidy!

Karen Kohut
Santa Rosa, CA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Clinton Pittman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:15 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Is the plan still to kill Obamacare?

I hope you will continue to work toward repealing the ACA and repudiating government-controlled and -financed healthcare, as the Republican Party has been promising since the ACA was passed. That is the only intellectually honest conservative position.

As long as this represents only a first step in the process, I am all for it. Otherwise, GC is pretty useless.

Clinton Pittman
Birmingham Alabama
(~);-}

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Rosetta Hixson <[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.

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.

Rosetta Hixson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jacksonville, Florida 32205

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Catherine Winston <[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.

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.

Catherine Winston
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richard Siegel <[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.

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.

Richard Siegel
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334-3505

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Gail Melhado <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This is not a health bill. This is a political attempt to trash healthcare and bring suffering and death to millions of people.

The right thing is to improve the ACA with bipartisan support. By compromise, the legislature can come up with a bill that will help us all. Trump has created a toxic partisan atmosphere in our government.

This can change if republicans and democrats work together. Forget Koch, Mercer and Trump. Work together!!!

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.

Gail Melhado

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Miami, Florida 33180

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Hertha Schulze <[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. Much like the calamitous ISDS provision being pushed for the NAFTA negotiations that would desperately penalize taxpayers for the sake of increased corporate profits, 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 and not connive to add to their own wealth without any limits and at our expense! When they are compelled to conduct themselves ethically, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families.

Hertha Schulze
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Palm Coast, Florida 32137

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Susan DeWitt <[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.

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.

Susan DeWitt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Largo, Florida 33770

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jean Shinhoster <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 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.

Jean Shinhoster
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Orlando, Florida 32817

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Inglee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:21 PM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Bill

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill because:

- An estimated 32 million will lose coverage.
- Ends Medicaid expansion that has helped 11 million gain coverage.
- Cuts coverage for seniors on fixed incomes, children and people with disabilities.
- Ends federal protection for pre-existing conditions, prohibition on lifetime limits and essential benefits.
- Substantially increases out-of-pocket health care costs for low- and middle-income Americans by ending cost sharing payments and premium tax cuts.
- Ends all funding for the Affordable Care Act by 2026.
- The Average State would see a cut of 17 % through 2026 and 100% afterwards.
- Premiums will likely spike by 20% next year.
- Provides no funding for recessions, natural disasters, public health emergencies, or prescription drug spikes.
- Eliminates funding for Planned Parenthood.

This bill is NOT in the best interest of the majority of Americans!

This bill does NOT keep the promise of providing more and better affordable care than the ACA!

This bill will NOT make America Greater!

Paula M. Inglee
[REDACTED]

Summerfield, FL 34491

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Earl L Kerr [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.

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.

Earl L Kerr

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Clearwater, Florida 33759

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: mary sohn <[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.

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.

mary sohn
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Melbourne Beach, Florida 32951

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dawn Flori <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 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.

Dawn Flori
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

laudershill, Florida 33319

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: George Craciun <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:24 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.

George Craciun

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Ira Chinsky <[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.

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.

Ira Chinsky
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boynton Beach, Florida 33472

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paul Horne [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.

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.

Paul Horne
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-7507

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Marti Lovejoy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy debacle

Gentleman and (far too few) Ladies,

Please do not subvert the processes of the United States Government to pass a bill way more than half of Americans think is a bad bill.

Please use the old-fashioned AMERICAN process of bipartisan bill-writing, hearings, etc. so the country will know what it is that you are doing. Secrecy belongs in governments like that of Nazi Germany or the Soviet Union, but NEVER in American Government.

PLEASE do not vote for this bill.

Martha Lovejoy
Houston, TX

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Amy Josefek [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:04 AM
To: gchcomments

To Our Senators:

PLEASE Take a stand against this latest effort to deny and/or reduce health care benefits for millions of people (yes, that is what this bill will do!).

*Commit to work on a bi-partisan plan to **improve** the Affordable Care Act. Graham-Cassidy is a heartless and wrong-minded effort. Do NOT support it.*

Choose country over party. This tax-paying, regularly-voting American is paying attention.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Anna Shamble <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:04 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senators,

I am writing to strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare (as do all families), and this bill would make it harder for us to get healthcare, putting our lives at risk.

Before the Affordable Care Act was passed, I stopped working to attend graduate school. For the first time, I needed to get healthcare through someone other than my employer. However, due to a fairly minor pre-existing condition (TMJ - which the provider didn't cover anyway), I was denied coverage. If this bill passes, people like me will be denied coverage for stupid reasons like this again. I was lucky, and was able to find another provider for my health insurance in grad school, but others weren't so lucky.

This bill would make it even harder to get health insurance and - because I also happen to have the "pre-existing condition" of being a woman - even if I had coverage, it would still put my health at risk due to the limited coverage it offers around women's reproductive health care. Healthcare coverage around the nation tends toward the "lowest common denominator", so even my employer-funded care would likely be impacted.

The Affordable Care Act was a good first step, and it's widely acknowledged that it needs to be updated. But those updates need to be through an inclusive bipartisan process. Any update needs to cover MORE people, cover pre-existing conditions, cover all reproductive healthcare, and better serve low-income people. We must not allow the ACA to be undermined, and we certainly shouldn't be repealing it.

Good people sometimes get sick. As a nation, we shouldn't strand those people without healthcare. Moving forward with the Graham-Cassidy bill is equivalent to signing a death sentence for millions of Americans. Senators should be fighting this bill with every fiber of their being. Their constituents' lives depend on it.

Sincerely,
Anna Shamble
[REDACTED]
Eugene, OR 97403

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Julie Lavezzo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Health"care"

As a member of the American Hospital Association and a Director at my local community hospital, I have seen firsthand the benefits of the Affordable Care Act. More people are getting better preventative health services, reducing the cost of expensive Emergency Department visits and healthcare costs overall. Your rushed "plan" is not the answer. Please take the time to create responsible and sustainable public policy for this critical element of our economy and our society,

Sincerely,

Julie Lavezzo

San Rafael, Ca

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Mary McDermott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:05 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Mary McDermott
Portland, OR

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jennifer M-S [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:06 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy bill

I am against this bill because

1. The process is rushed and irregular. Where is the CBO scoring? Where is the testimony in many committees?
2. The block grants for Medicaid will kill disabled people. States do not have any magic management around these costs that the Feds don't already have.
3. Why do some states benefit more or aren't hurt the same ?
4. Why does this bill unfairly lift regulations that help people? That make insurance affordable? Why does it let insurance companies have more and more money?
5. What about this section 204 and single risk pools? I know that conservative business people want more risk pools and I don't trust them at all. They want their company to insure the cheap people and the government to pay for the expensive people. I was in a hearing about this at the Utah capitol.
6. You-all could have let the Murray-Alexander HELP committee work on fixes to the ACA, to keep the good parts and fix the problematic parts. But you said no to that.
7. This is 1/6 of the country's economy and all of this uncertainty is very hard.
8. This is more about giving insurance companies breaks and less about actual health care.

Now, a story:

My son is 16. He has autism, depression, anxiety, ADHD, sensory issues. How will he get health care and health insurance when he grows up? He has good insurance on his dad's account now. We live in Salt Lake City and we are on wait lists for months and months all the time for treatment. There are not enough providers for care right now: OT, ABA, etc. What happens when he turns 18? Tell me. Will Medicaid be there if he needs it? Can we keep him on our insurance until he's 26? When he finds a job after college, will he be able to afford insurance and health care?

This bill does nothing to help my son, and everything to hurt him. While it makes the Koch brothers happy. And this is wrong.

Jenn

Jennifer Miller-Smith

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Dana Armstrong [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:09 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Please 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.

The American people need our help.

Dana Armstrong
Seattle, WA

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Heather Dine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham- Cassidy is truly AWFUL

Dear Finance Committee,

A plethora of medical organizations have decided against this "health" bill.

Blue Cross warned GOP repeal bill 'undermines' pre-existing condition rules. (see Reference 1)

It will allow insurers to jack up premiums:

"Graham-Cassidy, however, wouldn't simply allow waivers of Obamacare's protections for people with preexisting conditions. It would also permit insurers to charge higher premiums to people who are currently insured through the Obamacare exchanges as a condition of continued enrollment." (see Reference 2)

The AMA has urged the Senate to oppose this Graham-Cassidy Legislation. (see Reference 3).

I could go on and on. The public's time and money is being WASTED with these repeated attempts at what should be called a DEATH BILL. STOP IT. Get back to regular order. You can ALL be replaced.

1. <http://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/351549-blue-cross-warns-gop-repeal-bill-undermines-pre-existing-condition-rules>
2. <https://thinkprogress.org/trumpcares-back-and-now-it-will-let-insurers-jack-up-premiums-as-soon-as-you-get-sick-38fff5001bf9/>
3. <https://www.ama-assn.org/ama-urges-senate-oppose-graham-cassidy-legislation>

Heather Dine M.S. Human Anatomy,
Outreach Consultant, Coordinator, Central Coast Hour Exchange cchour.org; Underwater Photographic Imagery. Photos © Copyrighted

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Bettie Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:10 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

I am urging you to vote NO on the proposed Graham- Cassidy Health Care Bill.

The bill lacks bipartisanship, is being rushed through congress, and has not been adequately reviewed. Under this plan, Pre existing condition safeguards could be removed. It is clear that this bill could leave almost every family in the USA without affordable health care as many families have at least one person with a pre existing condition.

Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill. Work together as a bipartisan unit, come up with amendments to the PPACA that allows savings to the government while protecting the most important parts of the law for those who most need affordable health insurance.

Bettie J Lewis
Rockaway, NJ 07866

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: A G [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the ACA

I am over 50 with long term health issues which will only increase as I age, a fact that is true for most of us as we age. I do not think it is wise or fair to discriminate against those who are ill or who are older as the Senate and House explore a pathway to universal healthcare. Legislative proposals and bills which do not represent Americans who have made their collective voice known numerous times via messages, letters, protests, speeches, telephone calls, emails, etc., deserve better. It makes no sense to appease big donors or corporations or the current presidential administration instead of supporting the needs and desires of the constituents who should be represented by those who were sent to the Senate and House to be their voice. Pre-existing conditions being covered in an affordable way, affordable deductibles and premiums, and insurance that does not remove Americans from the roles is the necessary goal. This includes women's healthcare. Please do the right thing and support healthcare that is fair and comprehensive and that is representative of all of us. This is a serious task and should be studied carefully with attention to all concerned instead of shoved into a vote for political expediency. One day the persons who need this coverage which so many of us are concerned about could be the children or grandchildren of those voting. Do the right thing, allow bipartisan discussion and work to take place, and create legislation everyone can be proud of and support. I remember when both the Senate and House worked in a more bi-partisan way doing their jobs with professional care and attention to the whole and not just one party. It is a tragedy what these legislative bodies have morphed into.

Very truly yours,
A E Glosson
Washington

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandie V [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Opposition of Graham Cassidy HC Bill.

I am writing to oppose the repeal and replace of ACA (known as Obamacare). This is not a healthcare bill, it is a death wish to the American people! As a single parent on limited income I was able to receive health insurance with the help of Medicaid. I was recently diagnosed with a cardiac condition that would exclude me from a) getting medical coverage for a pre existing condition and b) without the assistance of Medicaid I would no longer be able to visit a doctor or afford my prescription medicine.

This bill is cruel, heartless and as a woman I am appalled at the lack of care millions of us will lose in planned parenthood, mammograms, PAP smears and other female related issues. This bill was written in secret by men who profess Pro life, yet are willing to abolish the care women need and also their newborn child. I fear for my young daughter at what her future will be like with healthcare that will no longer become affordable.

This is not a healthcare bill for the people! It's a massive tax break for the rich! As a retired nurse, may I just say that every single one of us will eventually have a pre existing condition as we age. This bill shows no compassion for the people who vote you into office!

Sincerely,

S. Watson. Rhode Island

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Chemia Moffatt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:11 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy Heller Johnson Amendment

My name is Ms. Moffatt and I'm a registered voter in St. Louis, MO. I'm disabled due to Lupus and Sjögren's syndrome. Both are chronic and can be fatal conditions. The care for these conditions run into the tens of thousands. I would not be able to afford treatment without insurance.

Stop trying to repeal and replace ACA. Graham-Cassidy repeal is worse than other incarnations. It guts Medicaid coverage from disabled, elderly and children and pre existing conditions. Block grants are terrible and would be detrimental to someone like me. No one in the health industry or insurance industry wants this bill. Everyone is telling Senate Republicans to reject this.

I add my voice. Reject this. Take the time and consideration to work with Democrats to improve ACA. We are people, not tax cuts or bottom lines. We don't deserve this hastily, hamfisted, patchwork of a rushed through bill.

Sincerely,

Ms. Moffatt

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Nicolas P de Mones [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: repeal graham-cassidy bill

Dear Sir,

My family and I relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thanks to Medicaid I've been able to go see a doctor for my lime disease. As a young guy out of college without it I wouldn't have been able to. is... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Nicolas de Monès
Bronx, NY

- Большой стаж работы в области камнеобработки позволяет применять полученные навыки и умения для создания уникального изделия из натурального камня, которое украсит ваш дом или офис.
- Наша компания является небольшим предприятием, поэтому цены у нас ниже рыночных, что дает возможность клиентам фирмы купить изделия из натуральных камней в Москве и области по самой доступной цене. Также мы получаем уникальный камень через прямых поставщиков, что позволяет избежать наценок.
- Элементы интерьера, не имеющие аналогов, создаются в оговоренные сроки. Производство изделий из натурального камня выполняется максимально быстро и качественно.

Мы стараемся создать для клиентов максимально удобные условия сотрудничества с нами. Мы учитываем все пожелания заказчика и используем творческий подход в своей работе. Обратившись к нам, вы получите консультацию и помощь в выборе подходящего вида камня для конкретного заказа, а также составление эскиза с учетом ваших пожеланий, предварительный расчет стоимости работ и профессиональные советы по дальнейшему уходу за каменными элементами декора. Чтобы получить услугу на таких приятных условиях, вы можете заполнить форму обратной связи для обращения к специалисту или позвонить нам.

Если вы решите заказать изделия из натурального камня у нас, то останетесь довольны сделанным выбором, так как обновленный интерьер будет говорить о хорошем вкусе хозяев дома или офиса и выгодно подчеркнет ваш статус.

Тел.: [REDACTED]
e-mail: [REDACTED]
Сайт: [REDACTED]

Вы получили это письмо, потому что ранее запрашивали у нас информацию о наших услугах а так же наш прайс. Если данная информация больше для вас не актуальна, вы можете [отписаться от наших рассылок](#).

Чтобы отписаться от этой рассылки, перейдите по [ссылке](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: MARBLE STYLE [REDACTED] on behalf of MARBLE STYLE
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:12 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Изделия из натурального камня от компании «MARBLE STYLE»



Изделия из натурального камня от компании «MARBLE STYLE»

Студия камня «Мраморный Стиль» предлагает клиентам эксклюзивные интерьерные решения из натурального камня.

Мы занимаемся изготовлением и монтажом изделий из натурального природного камня при помощи качественных инструментов и материалов, а также обеспечиваем индивидуальный подход для выполнения задач любой сложности. У нас вы можете заказать изделия из натурального камня в Москве и регионах по самым низким ценам. Профессиональное создание уникальных интерьерных элементов выполняется на высшем уровне, что успели отметить наши клиенты, оставшиеся довольны сотрудничеством с нами.

Какие услуги предлагаются нашей компанией?

Наша компания предлагает своим клиентам следующий перечень услуг:

- Проведение предварительных замеров и создание эскиза изделия, соответствующего вашим пожеланиям;
- Производство изделий из натурального камня по индивидуальному заказу на современном оборудовании;
- Монтаж выполненных изделий и архитектурных элементов (кухонных столешниц, моек, барных стоек, подоконников, колонн, каминов и т.д.);
- Облицовка стен и полов по персональным проектам, а также переполировка напольных покрытий;

Почему вам будет выгодно заказывать каменные элементы интерьера именно у нас?

Вам будет выгодно сотрудничать с нами по таким причинам:

- Наша компания является надежным исполнителем работ любой сложности. Мы используем качественные виды натурального камня, чтобы создавать эксклюзивные интерьерные решения и воплощать оригинальные задумки. Чтобы ваш интерьер был неповторимым, мы создадим авторский дизайн-проект, учитывая все нюансы выполнения конструкции определенного типа.

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alicia Busch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:13 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on the horrific Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip 32 million Americans from healthcare and put deadly limits on Medicaid affecting 65 million Americans.

This bill and all other iterations of this bill is a literal death sentence of many. For others it's a financial death sentence.

This will affect millions of children who are alive and thriving because of ACA and Medicaid. I have spoken to more than a dozen friends across the country who's medically fragile children will be heartlessly harmed because of this bill.

I urge you to consider all of your constituents that will be impacted. No parent should have to worry about the financial impact of their child's appropriate and necessary care, while they are in the PICU.

One of my dear friends has an almost 6 year old daughter with a rare chromosomal disorder that will not allow her to live a long life. The fact that she is almost 6 is a miracle and a testament to how strong this young child and her family are. She is in the PICU right now, critically dehydrated, unable to keep food or liquids down. While they were determining the best course of action a doctor asked her parents if they "had a financial reason to want to be discharged." Because of affordable private insurance AND Medicaid, they were able to say "No, we have no financial reasons. Please, do whatever you can to save our child's life."

Imagine being a parent, forced to say "yes" to that question. It's inhumane, it's cruel and absolutely unnecessary.

Our priorities need to be with those that need this the most. Those who's life literally depends upon it. Those who have a chance at thriving and being successful, because they have access to world class, affordable healthcare.

This is your chance to be on the right side of history. We are paying close attention and will how you vote will determine how hard we either campaign for or against you in your upcoming re-election cycle.

Thank you for your time and what will hopefully be, your NO vote on Graham-Cassidy.

Best Regards,
Alicia Busch
Maple Valley, Washington

Sent from my iPhone

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Peg Phillips [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham Cassidy

Please stop this. Americans deserve better. This bill recklessly disrupts 1/6 of the national economy and does nothing to improve the health of the American people

Sent from my iPad

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Theresa Ziegler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:14 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

I am very concerned about the potential passage of Graham-Cassidy. I am a nurse who works with seniors, especially those with cognitive decline and their caregivers. In addition, my husband and many friends are battling diagnoses such as cancer. I very much fear that if Graham-Cassidy passes, states will decide they can't afford to insure pre-existing conditions and many will lose needed coverage or be priced out of adequate coverage. So many people, regular people, seniors, children, women, will be hurt by Graham-Cassidy. I fear that many states will not sufficiently manage providing adequate insurance coverage for its residents with less money issued via block grants. In many states, healthcare for those who need it most is simply not a priority.

Please slow down, take your time and do what the constituents want and need. Seek a bipartisan approach, and do this correctly. Voting on Graham-Cassidy before having all the information about costs and numbers of Americans who will be affected is simply irresponsible. The ACA clearly needs revisions and changes but repeal and replace is not the way to approach this and Graham-Cassidy certainly isn't the answer. Graham-Cassidy will be devastating for so many.

Every American should be able to have health care coverage, not handouts but a hand up so that every American can maintain a healthy lifestyle, seek treatment when needed and contribute to society. We are one of the richest countries in the world but are an embarrassment in how we treat our citizens. Please stop playing politics with lives and health.

Theresa Ziegler, RN, MSN
Indian Shores, Florida
33785

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Reed Shafer-Ray [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Reed Shafer-Ray
Norman, Oklahoma

-States that exceed expenditures are subject to punishment by having their target per capita medical expenditures reduced, rather than obtaining any assistance, further reducing states' abilities to serve their citizens.

-Unused amounts to be used for deficit reduction, rather than for health care initiatives. The goals for Medicaid are to reduce it, rather than to use it to help people who are disabled, elderly, or low-income.

-Sec. 120 in general: States are encouraged to reduce their Medicaid costs at the same time they are receiving less federal funding. People will die.

Please vote against this extremely damaging "health care" proposal, a plan that will result in deaths and increased ill health for people in all 50 states and DC.

Best regards,

--

Paula C. Durbin-Westby
[REDACTED], Louisa, VA 23093

get him appropriate care, and with a worsening prognosis every month that passes, he is likely to end up with a long-term, exceedingly painful disability from which there will be little to no recovery. The only point of a per capita cap is to limit federal assistance to states, as though the federal government were somehow not involved with “state issues,” including the health and well-being of U.S. citizens. It makes no sense to target vulnerable populations of citizens because of “states’ rights” ideology. Lives are at stake.

- In addition, block grants may have wait lists. My son has an urgent condition that has already been subjected to inappropriate “waiting.” It will only get worse with the advent of block grants.

-Limiting the amount of funding to the number of enrollees in a base period will make enrollees have to “share” an amount meant for a fewer number of people should the number of people on Medicaid rise. This means that states will likely have to figure out ways to cut people from Medicaid (which they might try to do anyway, since they will no longer have adequate federal funding).

-In addition, “bonus payments” for things like spending less than the targeted amount on health care will push states toward elimination of people who otherwise might qualify. In our case, once again, my son’s health care access could be severely impacted.

-Basing the adjustment on the total population of a state, instead of on the number of people who could actually be eligible is yet another way that the per capita caps and block grants are set up to fail people who need health care.

-Other family members are “insured” through Medicare, which is tied directly to Medicaid for some services, such as nursing home care and medical equipment.

-Limits on amounts for HCBS, home- and community-based services, again something I have to think about for my son’s long-term prospects. With a per capita cap, home- and community-based services (HCBS) will be limited and will force people with disabilities into institutions rather than to lead lives in their communities. I don’t want my son to be forced into an institution at some point. He is 14. He should have a chance to live a productive life, as much as he is able, in his community, not in some warehouse.

-Repealing cost-sharing subsidies, starting in 2020, means that I will no longer be able to afford insurance (if I even can in the next couple of years given the other parts of Graham-Cassidy). Before the Affordable Care Act, I had no health insurance for a number of years. I was able to obtain ACA health insurance in 2015, and was able to address several health issues that had gone untreated. With Graham-Cassidy’s repeal of ACA Section 1402, in 2020 I will once again be unable to access regular health care.

achievements and honors he has received at science fairs, computer programming classes, and other activities. After July 2016, that all stopped due to the injury. He needs ongoing medical care but is unlikely to be able to receive it for as long as he needs it, given the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy amendment.

When I applied for health insurance in December 2016, my son was placed on Medicaid, although in prior years he had been on my Affordable Care Act plan, with a cost sharing “subsidy.” In 2016 I was told that I would not receive a subsidy if I chose to insure him rather than taking the Medicaid (for which I had not applied). The monthly premium at that time would have been high enough that, if I had chosen to pay it, we would literally have not been able to buy food or pay utilities. Needless to say, I “chose” to enroll him in Medicaid. He was shunted to Medicaid because of his disability.

I am a self-employed taxpayer, so am not able to purchase insurance through an employer.

If my son is taken off Medicaid because of pressures on states to reduce Medicaid enrollees, he will be even more negatively impacted, as he will have no insurance at all. The prospects of that are frightening. He was bedridden for over a year due to the medical injury and is still unable to do things like stand for more than a few minutes or attend school. At this point in his life, he needs regular, ongoing medical care including a variety of specialists who are trying to treat the painful nerve injury he sustained in 2016.

The Graham-Cassidy plan (H. R. 1628), the latest iteration of “Obamacare repeal,” that will damage not only my family but the lives of most people I know who are either disabled, or older, or people with lower-to-middle class incomes.

The following areas impact my family the most. I see other gravely concerning problems with the plan but will limit myself to those that affect my family:

-Waivers to states to be able to vary rates for individuals with pre-existing conditions. People over 50 can be charged much more than we are now. If rates are raised, I will be unable to afford health coverage.

-Requirements for people on Medicaid to re-apply for benefits every six months ((J) FREQUENCY OF ELIGIBILITY REDETERMINATIONS), or even shorter periods. It took over four months for Medicaid to get my son’s application processed, and a lot of his payments had to be made retroactively. Unless the bill is also going to provide for extra personnel to process twice the number of applications, this part of the plan will be a catastrophe, both for families who have to keep re-applying, and for Medicaid personnel, who will be expected to process twice the volume of applications in the same time frame.

-Graham-Cassidy calls for per-capita caps on Medicaid, with the possibility of block grants, the so-called “Medicaid Flexibility Program,” could lead to limits on my son’s chances to live a productive life since he needs access to continuing medical care for his injuries and health conditions. Having spent 15 months trying to

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Paula Durbin-Westby [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:15 AM
To: gchcomments
Cc: Paula C. Durbin-Westby
Subject: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Attachments: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.pdf; Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.pdf

Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Thank you for accepting this submission on the Graham-Cassidy amendment. I have copied the text into the body of this email and also have attached two files, PDF and Word.

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal
Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017
Paula C. Durbin-Westby
[REDACTED]

I am writing on behalf of my family, all members of which will be severely impacted if the Graham-Cassidy Proposal passes. As an older American with preexisting conditions (as most Americans my age have), I will be unable to afford health care starting in 2020, if not earlier. My son, who is disabled and on Medicaid, stands to lose access to a range of health-related services. I am his sole caregiver. If my health deteriorates because of lack of insurance, I may become unable to care for him. If home and community based services are negatively impacted, the worst case scenario would be that my son would have to live in an institution rather than be a part of his community. My mother is 84 and on Medicare, which will be adversely impacted by the proposed changes to Medicaid. While none of these scenarios have come to pass, the prescription in Graham-Cassidy, which goes out of its way to negatively affect every class of health consumer except the non-disabled upper middle classes, makes them that much more likely.

My son has a connective tissue disorder, discovered in 2016. In 2015, he broke his leg as a result of the disorder, but remained undiagnosed for over a year due to mistakes made by the doctors he was seeing at that time. During this time, he sustained a permanent knee injury due to an unnecessary treatment by one of his doctors. He has remained in an extremely high level of pain for 15 months at this writing. My son's condition has left him in such extreme pain that he is unable to attend school. He has tutors come in for a few subjects but missed out on 8th grade and is now missing his first year of high school. Prior to that, he has list of

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Jacob Childress [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

Jacob Childress
Austin, Texas

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Cathy Kehoe [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:18 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Fwd: Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal, Hearing September 25, 2017

Begin forwarded message:

Dear Sirs and Madames,

I am writing to ask you to vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal at the hearing on September 25th, 2017. This health care proposal would be detrimental to so many very important parts of our health care system, especially rural hospitals. Now physicians and hospitals, as well as consumers such as myself, are all coming out against this proposal.

I work with some of the most vulnerable people amount us, people living with dementia. If this proposal were to be voted into law, these people would lose:

- all health care due to a pre-existing condition
- health care due to a "lifetime cap" being re-instated
- a place to live due to cuts to Medicaid, which finances long term care in facilities or at home.

I urge you to wait, and not to try and pass something so detrimental so quickly. There is currently a wonderful bi-partisan task force being lead by Senator Lamar Alexander working to improve the Affordable Health Care Act. I beg you to think deeply about the people whose lives are In your hands.

Sincerely,
Cathy Kehoe

[REDACTED]
Nashotah, WI 53058
Very concerned citizen

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Denise Schachterle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:17 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller

The ACA Medicaid expansion and the requirement that insurance companies cover people with pre-existing questions are the reason I'm healthy enough to work and cope with everyday tasks. There are many Americans, children, the elderly, the disabled, who are even more vulnerable than I am. Millions of people would lose their insurance under Graham-Cassidy-Heller, and some of them would die as a result. Please reject this terrible legislation and instead pursue a bipartisan process to improve the ACA.

Denise Schachterle
Martinez, California

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Michael Shaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:19 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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.

[Michael Shaver]
[Strongsville, Ohio]
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Sandra McAndrew [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:21 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Sir/Madam

My son relies on completely on quality, affordable healthcare. Last year at a relatively young age he had a debilitating stroke. Fortunately he had Medicaid health care and was admitted to the hospital where he stayed for six days. Subsequently he has had further strokes and been in and out of the hospital at regular intervals . He cannot work and cannot afford private insurance. Had he not had Medicaid It would have been necessary for me to deplete my entire retirement savings to pay for his care and that probably would not have been enough. His very life depended on that care. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Now he has a pre-existing condition which I know if Graham-Cassidy is passed, he will not be able to afford the care he needs. We need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sandra McAndrew
[REDACTED]
Pine Grove, CA 95665

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Daivati Bharadvaj [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: strongly OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

As a primary care physician in the state of Oregon, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. The negative impact this bill would have on my patients terrifies me. Oregon would be the state that is hit the hardest, due to its dependency on the Affordable Care Act to protect so many of its residents. Throwing off millions of recipients of health insurance in the state, and around the country, will have a devastating impact on our collective health as a nation. Those with pre-existing conditions will no longer be able to afford the higher premiums as their costs continue to inflate. Worst of all, it will further weaken those who are already most vulnerable- elders, children, pregnant women, and people with life-threatening or chronic diseases which are otherwise treatable. Finally, block grants to states and gutting Medicaid even further will only lead to mismanagement of funds, with less and less money going to the people who actually need health coverage. Let's call this what it truly is: tax cuts for the wealthy, at the cost of millions of lives. It is reckless and downright unethical to push forward a bill which would lead to decline and death to so many, in a rushed effort to garner enough votes, without going through due diligence of public hearings, debates, consultations, and reviews. Please work together in a bipartisan process to arrive at more suitable options, such as a single payer universal healthcare program, and put people ahead of profits!

Sincerely,
Daivati Bharadvaj, ND

I firmly believe any decent person, religious or otherwise, who reads what Graham-Cassidy includes would be appalled. This isn't moving forward or trying to improve our country, this is moving backwards. This is trying to make wealthy corporations and wealthy people even wealthier instead of looking out for the wellbeing of our people, the American people. Let me remind you, your position in our government was created to represent the American people. You are supposed to prioritize us, your people. You are supposed to do what is best for us, your constituents. You are not supposed to do whatever Big Pharma, the health insurance industry, or corporation X hints or blatantly states is best for them while they fund you. That is corrupt and immoral. If your goal is to do whatever is best for wealthy corporations and wealthy individuals with a lot of power, you should retire from politics as soon as possible because American politicians are supposed to represent all of their constituents, all American citizens. While it is clear that many politicians tried to keep this behind closed doors and that Donald Trump has, once again, said something controversial to keep the American people divided and distracted while this was voted on- know that we see you. The American people see you and are watching, hoping you are representing us and doing what is best for us. Our fate is in your hands. The health and fate of our little ones, the next generation, just entering the world is in your hands.

We are falling behind other countries in pretty much all areas except military spending and number of people incarcerated. If your goal is to "make America great," you should make your actions match what you claim to be your beliefs. I urge you to be on the side of the American people and oppose Graham-Cassidy.

Remember, you are making history right now. Do you want to be known for hindering progress or aiding it? What do you want history books to say about you? Do you want them to say that you supported something that helped the rich get richer but killed thousands upon thousands of Americans, or do you want them to say you made a positive difference and helped improve our country? I hope you choose the right side of history. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
A concerned citizen in conservative West Texas

(Lubbock, TX. 79424)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Richardson, Kyleigh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:22 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy

An appeal to and plea for human decency:

Graham-Cassidy is not only shameful, it is immoral. It will result in the degradation of mental health, more parents not being able to afford proper care during pregnancy, more children not having access to medical services just because their parents cannot afford it, more unnecessary deaths, and have so many more detrimental effects on the American people.

First, let me appeal to our Christian politicians:

You cannot truly proclaim yourselves "Christian," and support a bill that will kill thousands upon thousands of people, including thousands of innocent and vulnerable children. Let me ask you- what would Jesus do? If you're truly Christian, you must reevaluate your stance and seriously consider this question.

If all the things about Jesus in the Bible are true, he wouldn't support Graham-Cassidy. He would find it a crime against humanity. Now, Separation of Church and State is supposed to be something we abide by, but many of you used your supposed Christianity as part of your platform. So I ask that you do what your Christian supporters would expect of you and do what you believe Jesus would do.

I have noticed that some of the most outspoken supporters of Graham-Cassidy also claim to be "pro-life." I must point out that you cannot truly be "pro-life" and support something that will wreak havoc on expecting mothers and drastically increase the price of pregnancy. That's something we should all agree on. You cannot be "pro-life" while being anti-mother and anti-affordable pregnancy. You cannot be "pro-life" and support something that will rob hundreds of thousands of innocent, vulnerable children of health care. You cannot be "pro-life" and support something that will make it harder for people to afford the mental health help they so desperately need, undoubtedly leading to increased numbers of suicide.

According to Time Magazine, "Under Graham-Cassidy, states could allow insurance companies to once again charge people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums based on their health status or medical history. For example, someone with asthma could be charged an estimated \$4,320 more in premiums, while a pregnant woman could be charged \$17,320 extra." Other reports state that as many as thirteen million women could lose access to maternal care.

This is not pro-life. This is the antithesis of "pro-life." Thirteen million women losing access to health care, while pregnancy could cost others up to almost twenty thousand dollars more is the definition of anti-life. You cannot be "pro-life" and support Graham-Cassidy. You cannot be pro-choice and support Graham-Cassidy because what options will women have when they don't have access to maternal care and being pregnant is beyond unaffordable? What options will parents have when their child is having multiple, severe asthma attacks every day but they can no longer afford the treatments their child needs?

Politicians- be you "pro-life" or "pro-choice," the American people know you want to make life better for us. This is why you must be united in opposing Graham-Cassidy. It is anti-life. Graham-Cassidy would, in no way, make life better or easier. Graham-Cassidy would make life harder and more expensive for the majority of Americans.

- HIV Medicine Association
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- JDRF
- Lutheran Services in America
- Kaiser Permanente
- March of Dimes
- Medicare Rights Center
- National Association of Medicaid Directors
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- National Association of School Nurses
- National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
- National Down Syndrome Congress
- National Health Council
- National Institute for Reproductive Health
- National Kidney Foundation
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- National Organization for Rare Diseases
- Planned Parenthood
- Public Health Institute
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Trust for America's Health
- WomenHeart

[Source: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/09/22/heres-a-list-of-medical-groups-opposing-the-cassidy-graham-health-care-bill/?utm_term=.3a8f51b64b37]

I urge all of you to look deep in your hearts and think if you really want to rush forward with this bill, with such incredible potential for real actual harm. The damage will affect innocent children particularly harshly. I am certain that you and virtually everyone you know and love has some sort of "pre-existing condition," and anyone can develop a terrible infection or cancer at any point. I urge members on both sides of the aisle, Republican and Democrat, to consider our patients first. There has been bitter tribalism keeping any real work on improving our healthcare system from happening. I urge you to commit to thoughtful, considered, BIPARTISAN health reform. As physicians, we treat the disease but do our best to limit the dangers to our patients (because no treatment is without potential risk). We need you to let us keep our patients healthy and well cared for while this process is underway. Listen to my profession, to our allied professionals, to the governors, to patients. **YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN THIS, AND OUR PATIENTS DESERVE BETTER.**

I and my fellow pediatricians are available and willing to help you with this. We want you to succeed, so we all succeed. But for this particular bill, **YOU MUST VOTE NO** and show your compassion and care for my patients.

Respectfully,

Alice I Sato, MD PhD, FAAP
Boulder, CO 80305

- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Preventive Medicine
- American Diabetes Association
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Cancer Society
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Preventive Medicine
- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Diabetes Association
- America's Essential Hospitals
- American Foundation for the Blind
- American Health Care Association
- America's Health Insurance Plans
- American Heart Association
- American Hospital Association
- American Liver Foundation
- American Lung Association
- American Medical Association
- American Nurses Association
- American Osteopathic Association
- American Occupational Therapy Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Psychological Association
- American Public Health Association
- American Society for Addiction Medicine
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Amputee Coalition
- The Arc
- Arthritis Foundation
- Association for Community Affiliated Plans

- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Association of University Centers on Disabilities
- Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
- Autism Society
- Autism Speaks
- Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Big Cities Health Coalition
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- Catholic Health Association
- Children's Hospital Association
- Center for Medicare Advocacy
- Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose
- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
- COPD Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Family Voices
- Federation of American Hospitals

C, hepatitis B) and STIs. Treated patients with HIV can have their viral loads be undetectable, greatly decreasing the risk of them transmitting infection to other persons (including decreasing transmission from mothers to their babies). Untreated HIV also acts as a "syndemic" with tuberculosis (TB). Patients with HIV/AIDS do not control their TB infections and are much more likely to transmit TB, via coughing, to others in their community. Untreated HIV in a community is also associated with rise in cases of syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia and other infections.

Secondly, this bill threatens children's access to primary care and vaccination. Unvaccinated and unwell children miss school and are at risk of not reaching their full potential to grow up to contribute to society. Furthermore, sick children need care, so their parents miss work themselves. Families are also at risk of becoming infected. One example of vaccine success and herd immunity is the rotavirus vaccine. Since its introduction, not only has hospitalization of children with rotavirus decreased >90%, it has also led to a decrease in the number of adult admissions to the hospital for diarrheal disease.

Third, as pointed out by Toby Cosgrove, CEO of the Cleveland Clinic [<https://newsroom.clevelandclinic.org/2017/09/22/why-cleveland-clinic-opposes-graham-cassidy-healthcare-bill/>], by increasing the number of uninsured patients, by losing efficiency by converting to block grants and expecting all 50 states to create new means of administering their programs, and by progressively eliminating Medicaid support, there is near certainty that many hospitals will also not be able to survive financially. I live in Colorado, which has many rural areas. I know rural healthcare coverage is important in many states, including Maine and Alaska of course, but also Indiana and Kansas and Ohio, etc. Rural hospitals and physician practices have a hard time providing services to the communities they love and want to support, in part because they can't just try to see more patients to make up for the relatively higher overhead that a small facility must cover. This bill puts rural healthcare in extreme jeopardy. I already see many children with ruptured appendixes as they live in rural areas that make it harder for them to get to a pediatric surgeon before rupture. At least at present they can get to a more local facility and be stabilized, even if definitive treatment isn't locally available. Children's health is disproportionately dependent on Medicaid support. The program covers 39% of all children and 60% of those with disabilities. Children's hospitals and pediatric subspecialty care would be in danger. I personally work at a for-profit hospital, yet easily 2/3 of my patients are on some form of Medicaid assistance program for them to be able to receive the level of care they need. Even in metropolitan Denver, I am not certain how well my practice or my hospital would do under this bill - and I fear it would be harmful. My understanding is that Sunday night's version of the bill has increased funding for Alaska than the prior version. Nonetheless, it seems to be an overall decrease in funding to that state. More importantly, I know for a fact that there is a shortage of pediatric sub-specialists in Alaska. Children with complex medical needs are often transferred from Alaska to children's hospitals in other states - mostly to Seattle Children's or Salt Lake or Denver or Boise. The health of Alaskan children is therefore dependent on the health of the children's hospitals in WA, UT, CO, ID - which will be hurt by this bill. Bailing out or shoring up individual states does not cover the needs of patients. [I would also remind you of the WAMI system for medical education; there is an alliance between WA-AK-MT-ID as there is only one medical school (U Wash) in the 4 states so WA tries to provide training for persons interested in practice in a WAMI state.]

I am certain you are aware that my societies, including the AAP and IDSA, have come out against this bill, as have hospital groups (including the Children's Hospital Association), insurers (including American Academy of Actuaries), other physician groups (including the AMA and AAFP and APA), and multiple patient advocacy organizations. A partial list is here:

- [Adult Congenital Heart Association](#)
- [ALS Association](#)
- [Alzheimer's Association](#)
- [Alzheimer's Impact Movement](#)
- [American Cancer Society](#)

Wright, Kevin (Finance)

From: Alice Sato [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:23 AM
To: gchcomments
Subject: Graham-Cassidy Health Bill vote

Re: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

I am writing to insist that the Senate vote ***NO*** on the GCHJ proposal.

I am a dual board certified pediatrician and pediatric infectious disease specialist. I am a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society, the Infectious Disease Society of America, the American Society for Microbiology and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. I have been in practice since 2001. I have worked for many years at the Carl R Darnall Army Medical Center. I also have worked for the Indian Health Service in Arizona and New Mexico, cared for patients in Idaho, upstate New York, Washington, and several east coast states. I am currently in practice in a 157 bed pediatric hospital in Denver, CO. I also have a PhD in Immunology from the University of Pennsylvania, an extensive research background including work at the National Institute on Aging.

I am writing in opposition to the GCHJ bill. Although there are many ways in which the ACA could be improved, this current proposal does nothing to solve any of them and in fact would be DEVASTATING to my profession. More personally, it would be harmful to my patients. I mostly care for children admitted to the hospital with serious, often life-threatening infections. Few of these infections could have been prevented by the patients or their families. There are occasional cases of vaccine preventable diseases, but either the patient's parents couldn't or wouldn't vaccinate them, or the patient had an immune deficiency (primary or acquired, e.g. kids with leukemia or other cancers) that made vaccination unsafe for them. Most of these patients have serious bacterial infections and have sepsis or are at risk for developing sepsis. As you may know, in the setting of sepsis, the risk of MORTALITY increases with each HOUR of delay in starting the patient on the appropriate antibiotic. There is literally no time for the patient's family to wait to seek care, and financial concerns should not delay diagnosis or treatment. Unfortunately, TV and movies have convinced people that all care occurs in emergency departments. Frankly, patients with access to routine care and providers who know them can prevent progression of manageable infections or other health conditions, which will allow them to be treated sooner, stay healthier and avoid hospitalization - benefitting them and society. A recent Harvard study [American Journal of Health Economics 2017 3:3, 392] showed that the Medicaid expansions in **Arizona, New York and Maine** in the early 2000s led to a 6% reduction in all-cause mortality, with ~20% related to HIV, and one life saved **annually** for every 239 to 316 adults gaining insurance.

The Brookings Institute released an assessment of this bill on Friday, 9/22. They estimate 32 million people will lose insurance coverage by the end of 2026. This equates to 18.5 - 35 **thousand** excess deaths **per year**. As an infectious disease physician, I see these numbers - as horrific as they are - as just the tip of the iceberg of the damage that this bill will cause to health in the US.

First, we know that people without insurance are much less likely to receive medical care for acute or chronic problems. Untreated drug addiction increases the risk of blood-borne infections (most commonly HIV, hepatitis