

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family relies o quality healthcare that is affordable. Let's get some bipartisan Congressional effort going that would IMPROVE the ACA, NOT repeal it.

Sincerely, Karen P. Ellwood  
Lomita, CA

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Machta <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

I strongly urge you to vote NO to this mean and hurtful Graham Cassidy bill. I am a 63 year old widow with a "pre-existing" condition. I am retired and will be dependent on the Affordable Care Act until I can get Medicare. I am terrified that I and millions of other Americans will be excluded from getting insurance under this bill. I am a generally healthy person who takes good care of myself but shit happens and we ALL need affordable health insurance, this plan doesn't help make America healthier or more financially secure. VOTE NO!

Thank you for your time,  
Deborah Machta

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Gardner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 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.

Carol Gardner  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Chris Miles <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My fiancé, my daughter, myself, and my two grandchildren have pre-existing conditions. That's my family. This is why I get up in the morning. We will end up costing a lot if we cannot afford our medication.

Chris Miles  
Wisconsin



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jerry Kent [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality , affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter, who is self employed, was unable to afford health care until the ACA. Now she has excellent healthcare coverage she can afford. And instead of her premiums going up this year, hers were reduced. Without the ACA, she would be without health coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve ACA, not repeal it. This is a matter of life and death.☹

Sincerely,  
Lola Kent

Lafayette, Californai

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marilyn Clausen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy: for shame!

I'm offering my thoughts on this new "health care" proposal: It clearly another attempt, in the name of political gain, to **throw women, children, elderly and the disabled under the bus!** I can only say, FOR SHAME!

I worked for many years as a medical social worker for Harvard Pilgrim Health Plan, my job being to help gainfully employed workers and their families keep life and limb together in the face of catastrophic illness. They faced first the illness, then if lucky a slow recovery, sick leave, loss of employment, depletion of assets, loss of home and, finally, loss of health insurance when it was most needed.

There is absolutely no excuse for crafting a bill such of this, no excuse for any state to allow preexisting illness as a condition for accessing insurance, no excuse for any insurance company act as a gate-keeper to insurance for our citizens.

Understand that my role was not to assist the indigent but rather those who had insurance through employment! I shudder to think of those who lived on the margin perhaps in a job that didn't pay enough for economic comfort but too much for public benefit rescue. My words come from Massachusetts, a state which offers the richest of public benefits! And our governor Charlie Baker is clearly opposed to this proposal. He was Chief Executive Officer of Harvard Pilgrim. He knows the insurance business...listen to him!

And, now a word about political gain. There is no earthly reason, other than private interest and gain, for this stupid slogan, "Repeal and Replace"! Has anyone thought about "FIX?" Surely there is enough intellect in DC to turn to this option. Repair Obamacare!

Thank you for considering my thoughts. If you pass this proposal, there will be a cry in this country such as you have not experienced, and those who acted to see it through will be packing their offices and heading home once it's effects are felt!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Clausen

[REDACTED]  
Framingham MA 01701

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tana Feiner [mailto:feiner@ghccomments.org]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM  
**To:** ghccomments  
**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.

Tana Feiner  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cameron Coder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** S. Chapek <sc[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ruth Karpel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Saraphine Metis [REDACTED].org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

This is BULLSHIT! Obamacare needs some work, but this is nothing but short shifting millions of Americans while filling the pockets of corporations. NOT COOL!

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

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Saraphine Metis

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].org

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Corey Kaup <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Corey Kaup  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elliott Amstutz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Once again the ACA is under attack. Even though the repeal has been denied by the Senate multiple times, some Senators do not seem to want to listen to the American people. More than 50 % of Americans want congress to not repeal but improve the ACA. All the Trumpcare plans that have been proposed are opposed by more than 3/4 of Americans. This last proposal has been done without the whole senate debating it, without the Americans citizens knowing what is in it, without the approval of all major medical organizations, without a CBO score and most of the senators who will vote for it saying that they know little about it , that it is a bad bill.

Their only excuse is a political rationalization that it is their last chance to repeal the ACA. The public knows it is a terrible bill and news organizations report that what is known of it is the worse plan yet. 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.

Stand up for America like fellow Senator John McCain and vote for what is best for Americans. Vote NO

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Caryn Graves [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Caryn Graves  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] St.  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Darnell Barsness <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Darnell Barsness  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristin Young [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

In 2009, the ACA 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.

We are roused from our sleep now. We are paying attention.

Kristin Young

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** William Keswick <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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William Keswick  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Patricia Barry <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Patricia Barry  
pavb6769@gmail.com  
67 Glendale Road  
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Martin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Mary Martin  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 47

**Mr. Dennis G. Smith, Senior Advisor for Medicaid and Health Care Reform, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Little Rock, AR.** Since September 2016, Dennis Smith has served as the Senior Advisor for Medicaid and Health Care Reform in Arkansas. Smith was previously the managing director of the D.C. office of McKenna Long & Aldridge. From 2011 to 2013, Smith served as the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services under Governor Scott Walker. Smith was appointed in 2001 to serve as Director of the Center for Medicaid and State Operations at CMS, and was the Acting Administrator of CMS from December 2003 to March 2004. Smith also served as the Medicaid Director for the Commonwealth of Virginia and as Chief of Planning for the California Department of Developmental Services. He holds a M.P.A. from George Mason University and a B.A. from Illinois State University.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shaddrick Sunderman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Shaddrick Sunderman  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** carol broll [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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carol broll  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alan Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Alan Brown  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mark Yackley [redacted]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Mark Yackley  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stef Cheneby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Stef Cheneby

S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Miller [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on good-quality, affordable healthcare. For this reason, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Julie Miller  
Knoxville, TN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Iris Robertson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Ill-considered, brutal in impact, beloved only by those rich enough to need no further intervention.

Iris Robertson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** K. Laurence [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare: Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Please don't pass this terrible bill, it will do more harm than good to millions of people who don't deserve to be treated this way by the legislators they trust to protect their interests.

K. Laurence  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] YORK 10044



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** marcia spratt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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.

marcia spratt  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Effie Mohtashemi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Effie Mohtashemi

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Angela Rowan <i[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Angela Rowan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 301

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gloria Linda Maldonado <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Gloria Linda Maldonado

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]s  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Thomas Ah Yee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Thomas Ah Yee

[REDACTED] m

[REDACTED] ane

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Diana Baethke <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Diana Baethke  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** C E Morris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators:

The American people's lives and healthcare are not "deals" to be trifled with or to lay bets on. This bill is an egregious affront to most hard working Americans because they know even if they don't need it today, no one can predict the future regardless of current health status or age. It will be a death sentence and bankruptcy sentence for many. Unacceptable. Follow the rules of process & get input from all congress & consider all ideas.

Medical professionals & many other organizations, hospitals, etc. are opposed to this bill because it will do irreversible harm to so many!

Republicans promised affordable access to better healthcare for ALL. Where's that bill?

No to Graham-Cassidy bill!

Carol Morris  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Walter Tersch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our lives

Finance Committee,

Have a heart!

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

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

Walter Tersch

[REDACTED] m  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Steve Gould [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Steve Gould

[REDACTED] et  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Pamela Perkins <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Pamela Perkins

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Bobbie Flowers <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Bobbie Flowers  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Howard Baitcher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Howard Baitcher

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Darlene Norwood [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The scammy Trump University seems to be the new model for how Senate Republicans get things done. Policy doesn't matter. Who it hurts isn't even a factor in their thinking. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes.

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Darlene Norwood  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 34

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Judith Weyand <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Judith Weyand  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 81996

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Joan Sitnick <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Joan Sitnick  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Finance Committee 09/23/17 136

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tom McKernan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 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. Tom McKernan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharon Alexander <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a daughter-in-law who, years ago when she was only 25 and without healthcare, had pneumonia that resulted in a collapsed lung because she couldn't afford to go to the doctor. Of course, that required hospitalization and bills she couldn't pay. As a very young woman, out of college but in a job with a low starting salary and no reserves, she was forced to declare bankruptcy. It took her years to recover financially. Her physical and financial devastation could have been avoided if she had had quality, affordable healthcare at the time.

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

Sincerely,

Sharon Alexander

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Austin Esquibel <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Hi,

I'm writing about the Graham/Cassidy bill. Which, by every measure, is a bad bill.

Firstly, I ask that Congress not 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, weakening protections for pre-existing conditions is unacceptable. I am a mother of a child born with a pre-existing condition. If we are priced out of care and he loses access to services, all progress we've made, all dreams he holds, will effectively disappear unless I go bankrupt trying to pay out of pocket.

Thirdly, I am very distressed by the proposed cuts to Medicaid which would cause costs for seniors and those with disabilities to skyrocket.

This bill will not bring coverage to more Americans- in fact, over 30 million will lose their existing coverage. And, like before the ACA, people will be forced to choose between buying groceries or having healthcare. People will die.

This proposed bill is heartless and mean. Rather than helping our fellow man, we will hurt those that are the most vulnerable.

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill. Instead, we need to return to regular order and work in a bi-partisan manner to repair the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] in

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Michael Fulwiler [REDACTED]@fulwiler.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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 Fulwiler  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ellen Holzman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I am a small business owner in California and I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

Sen. Cassidy states that he wants to help people who cannot afford health insurance. The answer is not to strip away insurance from millions of people like me by capping and cutting Medicaid, and offering the states a way to strip off protections for those with pre-existing conditions. I believe that our country must guarantee health care for all. This bill will not even guarantee access for all. The two are, of course, very different but Republicans say they want to guarantee access to everyone. If you have to choose between paying for shelter and food vs. paying for health insurance, people will choose shelter and food. That's not guaranteed access, let alone guaranteed care.

I support bipartisan efforts to guarantee health care for everyone. I'm willing to pay higher taxes to do it.

Ellen Holzman, Julian California

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** gary faas <[REDACTED]g>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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gary faas

[REDACTED]om

[REDACTED]iel

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Judi Stess [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Members of Congress,

My family and many of my friends rely on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a type of Lymphoma and my husband has had Melanoma. So far the ACA has helped us with medical expenses. This proposed bill would wipe out billions from the California health budget putting into question affordable coverage for senior like us.

The best option for our country would be a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The divisiveness and one sided approach has gotten us nowhere. It is time to hear voices from both sides and find a suitable and workable compromise.

Please, Please consider working together for a viable option which takes care of young and old, rich and poor, the generally healthy folks as well as those with major health issues.

Thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judith Stess

San Anselmo, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jared Jackson [REDACTED]@org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Jared Jackson

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Joan Mueller [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Joan Mueller  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 5



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joshua Paterno [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Joshua Paterno

[REDACTED] 0V  
[REDACTED] 7R  
[REDACTED] 1

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** John Cole [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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John Cole

S [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SENEX DIVE  
M [REDACTED] 1

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** JEFFREY SMITH <JEFFREY.SMITH@SENATE.GOV>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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JEFFREY SMITH

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Kelly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Both Democrats and Republicans agree Obamacare needs to be revised- it was the best Obama could get passed through the do-nothing Congress of 2008. What the Republicans are focused on, however, is not how to provide the best healthcare for as many Americans as possible, but to rather release the tax break for their donors and destroy anything with Obama's name attached. The Graham-Cassidy bill is heartless at its core and an attempt to destroy Medicaid, a long term goal of the extreme, heartless right. Make America Great Again by listening to Sen McCain- go through the bipartisan process. Stronger Together was Hillary's motto because it is true.

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 Kelly  
[REDACTED]@gmail.com

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gretchen Muehl [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Gretchen Muehl  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Gail Roberts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Gail Roberts

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** George Heen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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 Heen

[REDACTED]m

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rosalie Pinkert : [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Kicking 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans is tantamount to murder. To do it to supply the wealthy with tax dollars is obscene.

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 a clear indication that Lindsay and Cassidy know it's a sham.

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.

Rosalie Pinkert  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Diane Seligmann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

The republicans could have been the heroes....years ago. They could have analyzed Obama's two wins, and realized many millions voted for him because he championed health care for all. Is the ACA flawed? Of course it is. But it was debated for 16 months, the republicans made 18 changes to it, and none of them benefitted the citizens. They could have taken the bill, and strengthened it, made it better, more palatable, and more compassionate. And nobody would have ever called it Obamacare, and they would have been applauded and rewarded...by the voters. Instead they choose to be rewarded by big business, insurance companies, and big pharma. They had seven years to figure it Out. yet here we are, at a place of unbelievable cruelty. The republicans, who have great health care, at least some of which is paid for by taxpayers, putting forth a bill that helps not one single American.

Diane Seligmann  
Louisville KY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sandra Thorn  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

East Hampton , New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Janet Price [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I live in a state that would be particularly hard-hit by the cruel and poorly written Graham-Cassidy bill. Many in my family have pre-existing conditions including asthma, heart problems, high blood pressure, etc. I am particularly distressed at the attempts of the bills' proponents to mask or sugar coat the consequences of allowing states to obtain waivers from providing essential services or covering pre-existing conditions without unaffordable increases in premiums. Instead,

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

Sincerely,

Janet Price  
Brooklyn, NY

--  
Janet Ruth Price

[REDACTED]

"We live in a perpetually burning building and what we must save from it, all the time, is love."--  
Tennessee Williams

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah Krajewski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect health care- don't cut it

The newest healthcare proposal will endanger the health of millions of Americans including me. I have Type 1 (juvenile) diabetes. I need insurance to help pay for managing my illness and keeping me healthy, but as it is a pre-existing condition, I would be left uninsurable by this new bill. As a woman and a mother of a daughter, I also feel strongly that the protection of women's health care is vital. Please do not pass a poorly thought out bill that keeps people from accessing the care that they desperately need. Work in a bipartisan fashion, instead, to stabilize the insurance markets, rein in drug costs, and determine how we can provide ALL Americans with affordable high quality care.

Sarah Nelson Krajewski  
[REDACTED]

Mountain View, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elaine Crowder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony - Graham-Cassidy hearing

Please accept this submission of testimony to the Senate finance committee hearing for Graham-Cassidy.

As an American nearing retirement, I subsidized older, less healthy Americans in my youth only to discover that I am still subsidizing younger Americans who choose to exercise an unfortunately entitled notion of "freedom" to forgo health insurance. Instead, they use more expensive emergency room services. Healthcare will never be affordable as long as Americans fail to do the patriotic thing and participate in a health insurance plan. The individual mandate is not a punishment. It is motivated by good business sense and the principal that by maximally spreading the risk to all recipients considerable downward pressure can be placed on rates. There is an alternative to the public single payer option. Why not expand the "individual" markets by simply treating all workers alike. Rather than banning the self-employed from joining a group to spread the risk and cost, remove ALL groups. Require everyone to join the health care exchanges, whether self-employed or employed by the biggest corporations. THIS would equalize the markets across all states, even those that are failing because the exchange markets are skewed toward the old, less healthy, and poor.

The Graham-Cassidy bill falsely upholds a freedom to choose when in fact no one can fully freely choose their own state of health. For this reason, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Unfortunately, the Senate seems bent on passing anything, just to pass it unilaterally without seeking the full understanding of costs and consequences one gets from a CBO score. This is irresponsible. Please, we Americans can do better than this. Please follow Senator McCain's lead and do the right thing for ALL Americans by entering into a bipartisan process of systematic review of the ACA. Talk with all stakeholders, find out what works and what doesn't, take your time, and craft responsible fixes that will improve healthcare in this country in a fiscally responsible manner.

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

Sincerely, Elaine Crowder

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Elaine Crowder, Ph. D.  
Arlington, MA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ben Rosen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:43 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.

Ben Rosen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Kew Gardens, NY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Scaramella [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are both small business owners, and we pay for our family's healthcare insurance. The ACA gives us peace of mind, reasonable premiums, and affordable, quality care. The ACA isn't perfect, but it is a vast improvement over the previous system, in terms of coverage and cost. Instead of this completely irresponsible bill, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julie Scaramella  
Auburndale, Massachusetts

Julie Scaramella  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Colleen Clements [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** vote on Graham-Cassidy

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,

Colleen Clements

Saint Paul, MN



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Denise Wakeman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 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.

My story with affordability is that I am self-employed and must purchase individual healthcare insurance. Prior to the ACA, I could barely afford the premiums. Now, I feel more secure knowing I can afford care if something happens to me.

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

Sincerely,

Denise Wakeman

Los Angeles, CA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sue Wachter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy bill

Please don't take my daughter's healthcare away and raise my rates. She is type 1 diabetic and recently went through breast cancer treatment. I am on a pension and social security so can't afford to pay more for my care. If you let the states decide our rates may go up for less coverage and we can't afford that. please listen to the AMA, AARP the hospitals and so many groups. Listen to Jimmy Kimmel - he read the bill, many in congress have not.

Sue Wachter

[REDACTED]  
Tucson, AZ [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Annecone [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.

Lisa Annecone  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Santa Rosa, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

Chris Joas

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
MIDDLETON, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Nick Guthman  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Culver City, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Nicole Dunton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition of Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. While I was employed in public education, I payed for healthcare coverage that I then couldn't afford to utilize. After housing costs and student loans, there was no money left for copays or deductibles. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nicole Gorsun

Old Orchard Beach, Maine

*There is not a single metric of health or health care that the Graham-Cassidy plan—co-sponsored by Senator Lindsey Graham, of South Carolina—makes better.*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Frank Sennett

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Lewistown, Montana [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Marcella Huggard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family and my friends rely on affordable, quality healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mother was on dialysis for the last ten years of her life; without Medicare to help cover that condition, my parents would never have been able to afford living in their home and my mother continue receiving the treatment she needed to stay alive. Without my current health insurance, my asthma would have been considered a pre-existing condition and I would still be paying for medication, no deductible or co-insurance, every month to help me breathe comfortably. My family are the fortunate ones. I've known too many friends, too many relatives of friends, who have gone without health insurance, who have gone without medical treatment, because they could not afford it. How can we consider ourselves a civilized, advanced society if we refuse to take care of our own? How can we not recognize that anything can happen to any of us at any time, that even if we might be healthy right now, next week or next month we might have an accident, be diagnosed with something serious, or otherwise need urgent health care? Affordable health insurance and affordable medical care should not be the privilege of the wealthy and those in good health.

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

Sincerely,  
Marcella Huggard  
Lawrence, KS



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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David Goode  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Lexington, Kentucky [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Katherine Westbrook [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA repeal/reform

I believe in quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I care for people who are using the ACA to access the health care system for the first time. These people are treating serious, life threatening conditions, but previously were unable to address them due to prohibitive cost. Those people, under this bill, could again be refused coverage. Our country as a whole, not as individual state entities, has a responsibility to care for its citizens. This bill allows states to turn its back on people who are unfortunate enough to ill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Kate Westbrook  
Clayton CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Chris Casper [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families. This whole conflict we are having with the GOP taking away our lifeline to health care is beyond unAmerican. They are a disgrace to this nation and their party should be abolished. They are the enemy within.

Chris Casper  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Stevens Point, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paula Gorgas <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Paula Gorgas

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Poteau, OK, Oklahoma [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** marta cramer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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marta cramer

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
billings, Montana [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Stefani Engelstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Stefani Engelstein

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Durham, North Carolina [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laura Nagle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment on Graham-Cassidy health care proposal

To whom it may concern:

I am writing today not to speculate about what could happen were the Graham-Cassidy health care proposal to become law, but to recount what my family actually did experience prior to the legal protections of the Affordable Care Act -- the protections that Graham-Cassidy threatens to eliminate.

My father did everything he was supposed to do in order to live the American dream. The son of immigrants, raised primarily in orphanages following the loss of his mother, he served briefly in the military and then learned a trade. As a young optician, he was hired by a small business, which he bought upon his employer's retirement. That sounds like a great success story, doesn't it?

Unfortunately, he agreed to that purchase in the late 1980s. Over the decade that followed, my father's business was undermined by health insurance companies in two ways.

First, the promotion of HMOs and PPOs meant that many of his long-time clients were required to get their vision care through Lenscrafters and other corporate providers rather than through small businesses like my father's. Working as his Saturday receptionist when I was in high school, I fielded many calls from clients requesting their records and expressing regret that they couldn't afford to forgo their insurance benefits in order to support the local small business that they preferred.

Second -- and I certainly hope this comes as no surprise to anyone reading this message -- the 1990s were not a great time for a small business owner to try to get insurance coverage for his family. We went without health insurance for my teen years. We were simply lucky that no one in the family required surgery or hospitalization during that time; however, my mother did not see a doctor for a decade, and by the time she did, she had full-blown type 2 diabetes. The lack of preventive health care for herself and the stress of managing the family's physical and financial well-being during that time certainly contributed to the severity of her condition.

My family's story is not unique. When you, lawmakers, wring your hands about the high cost of providing health care to the American people, you must consider that some of those "expensive" Medicare and Medicaid recipients are sick and require high-priced care *precisely because of Congress's past failures* to act on behalf of the people: *your past preferential treatment* of for-profit insurance conglomerates, allowing them to charge whatever they liked, with no expectation that they cover essential services. Your responsibility is to the American people, your constituents. Setting our health care system back by decades would be cruelly irresponsible.

Very truly yours,  
Laura L. Nagle  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeff Levy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Health Care

My entire family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions includes a disease when I was 24 years old and have recovered from, but because of that history, I had not been able to obtain ANY healthcare because of pre-existing conditions until the ACA. **I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Sincerely  
Jeff Levy  
Chicago, IL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

"For all that, and though the live-oak glistens there  
in a wide flat space,  
Uttering joyous leaves all its life  
without a friend, a lover, near,  
I know very well I could not"

*Walt Whitman*

We are a community of helping professionals working together to enhance the emotional, psychological and spiritual well being of individuals, families, organizations and communities.

FOR MY CLIENTS: My office is concerned about the privacy of your medical information. Because conventional email is inherently insecure, the confidentiality of sensitive materials cannot be assured. Therefore, you may not want to discuss sensitive matters through e-mail. It is possible that our e-mail messages may be diverted or read by others not intended by you or by us. Also, [REDACTED] requires that e-mails sent as part of any discussion of health care be retained in your medical records. I reply to your emails as a courtesy to you. [REDACTED] Therefore, if this is an emergency situation, please call 911 or go to your local emergency room.

The information in this e-mail is confidential and is legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorized and may lead to civil and/or criminal penalties. If you have received this e-mail in error, please delete all electronic copies of this message (and the documents attached to it, if any); destroy any hard copies you may have created; and notify [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laurie Pollock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please keep our health care

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it would be a tragedy for my family and beloved friends. My husband is self-employed, as are so many of our friends in this economy where older workers are let go from corporations and must patch together a living as no big company will hire them. (This is one of the consequences of employer-supplied healthcare.) We rely on affordable insurance to keep ourselves going. We need a Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laurie S Pollock

Pine Plains, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Versie Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Versie Brown  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn NY, New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leroy Keefer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Leroy Keefer

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Bellevue, Nebraska [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** John Rosenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate:

The Graham-Cassidy bill would be a disaster for my family. Even though I am a physician intimately involved in health-care, my family is at risk. I have two children with serious medical problems. My son had testicular cancer 3 years ago. My daughter has had two major pelvic reconstructive surgeries for a congenital problem. Because of these difficulties, both of my children would be unable to procure health insurance in the market UNLESS there are protections for individuals with pre-existing conditions. My daughter is also a graduate student, a status she will enjoy for many more years--and as such she is unable to get insurance without the opportunity offered through the ACA!!

Don't eviscerate the ACA! That is unconscionable!! You can work in a bipartisan manner to improve it instead!!

John G. Rosenberg MD, MPH  
Berkeley, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Robert Bucher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Robert Bucher  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Killen, Bretagne [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Comisar [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** RE: The Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has extensive history with cancer and mental illness, and I am not currently eligible for employer-provided health insurance. Coverage that guarantees me regular preventative care is essential. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Emily Comisar  
New York, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandra Lee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** donnelly@senate.gov; young@senate.gov  
**Subject:** GCH Healthcare Proposal

I am urging the Senate to reject (vote No) on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal on Monday, Sept. 25, 2017. I object to several of the key aspects of this bill, especially that it would deprive tens of millions of Americans of healthcare coverage, for many, many more it wouldn't be affordable, the terms for those with "pre-existing conditions" cost would be exorbitant, and huge tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans are unnecessary, unfair, discriminatory, wasteful, and an affront to those of lesser means, who need and deserve more opportunities. Thank you for considering my opinion, and I hope you take the high moral ground by voting no.

Sandra Hadley  
[REDACTED]

Fort Wayne, IN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shannon Carroll [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Support for improvement but not repeal of ACA - we depend on quality, affordable healthcare benefits!

Several members of my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare benefits through ACA. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My foster son, biological son, and sister have health care now that they would not be able to afford without the ACA. They all are working or attending school full-time. They are just hard working folks trying to make it. Please work together in a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. My family's health and well-being depend on you doing this!

Sincerely,  
Shannon Carroll  
Boone, NC



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Doris Frisch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** opposed

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

Sincerely

Doris Frisch

Richmond, CA



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karen Lawson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Finance Committee Comment: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Hon. Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to submit comment for **September 25, 2017 consideration of the Graham-Casidy Proposal** for repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act.

I'm opposed to this proposal because the legislation would **impose an "age tax" on me and 6 million 50- to 64-year-old people** who have worked all our lives, paid taxes, and should not face elimination of sources of financial assistance that help make health coverage affordable and accessible.

The provisions of this proposal **erode key protections for patients 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.**

Please **DO NOT PASS** this proposal and, instead, support Congress in drafting needed repairs to the ACA until bipartisan proposals can be negotiated without penalties for sick, elderly, children and the most vulnerable.

It's shameful that (as Sen. Grassley publicly noted) political reasons would ever be given priority over the needs of our people.

Karen Lawson

[REDACTED]  
Yorba Linda, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alice Sanborn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy hearing

I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many in my community, including members of my family, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Due to job loss and/or pre-existing conditions, they are not able to obtain and/or afford private pay insurance.

Please work across the aisle with your colleagues to form reasonable, lasting, fair, equitable changes to ACA --- NOT repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Alice Sanborn  
Waconia, MN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ellen Aldridge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham- Cassidy

MY family relies on quality, affordable healthcare as my son has mental health issues that need care for him to be a contributing member of our society. . Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. With his pre- existing condition he would be unable to get coverage and without care he would not be able to be a functioning person- and would become a government dependent of SSI. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Ellen Aldridge  
Santa Cruz ca.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julia Blake [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because of the loop hole for pre-existing conditions as well as the impact on Medicaid. The ACA was a good beginning for healthcare reform and should not be repealed. Now there just should be a bi-partisan effort to improve it! Please read The Economist article "The Expanding Universal" in the August 12-18 issue. It summarizes the options so clearly.

Julia Blake, Jericho Vermont

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sam Slick <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sam Slick  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

La Quinta, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Juliana Blewett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health-cut bill

I'm a constituent from Indiana. My name is Juliana Blewett. My father is a 94 year old World War II veteran who we cannot put in a nursing home because we will lose just about everything we own if we do. So we are keeping him at home but that prevents me from working. I am under the Medicaid Indiana hip 2.0 program after being without insurance four over 7 years. I am finally getting health problems taking care of that I've been dealing with for over 7 years and if this wealth care bill goes through, I will lose my insurance. I need health care and I cannot afford to pay \$600 a month for it. I wouldn't even be able to get it because of pre-existing conditions. I remember what it was like before the Affordable Care Act prohibited insurance companies from charging me more for pre-existing conditions and lifetime caps.

I am not alone. There are others with worse stories than mine. You must not take away our health insurance because you will kill us. I heard you to reject the Graham Cassidy health care act bill. Every American Life should be worth something to you and not a tax break for the wealthiest people in this country.

Thank you

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Leslie Medina [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Anyone voting for Graham-Cassidy is performing a selfish and thoughtless act designed to hurt millions in order to give tax breaks to undeserving tax dropouts.

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.

Leslie Medina  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Milford, Connecticut [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** MARY GONZALEZ-MARTINEZ [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Last month, at my annual mammogram, the doctors found abnormal lumps in my breast. As a result, I had to go back for multiple x-rays and sonograms, followed by a biopsy. If this resulted in cancer, I would have worried about my family, and paying for my bills. Thousands of families face cancer and expensive medical bills, causing them to make cost effective choices rather than finding the best doctor and care. My mother in law had leukemia all her life, and it eventually killed her. We are fortunate that it was covered. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Mary Gonzalez Martinez  
New York, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Logan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that I was diagnosed with MS last year. I cannot afford the medication I have been prescribed without assistance, and it was because of affordable healthcare that I was able to have my symptoms (loss of vision, pain, loss of sensation) treated and diagnosed at all. If this bill passes, not only will my access to quality healthcare be affected, but there is no way that, should I lose coverage, I would be able to afford to seek new coverage, due to the premium surcharges proposed.

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

Sincerely, Sara Logan

St Louis Park, MN

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Sara Logan  
Storyteller, Teacher, Consultant

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** christy mumma [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The GOP and Republicans, along with the orange butterfly should all be removed and their healthcare taken away from them.

May they all burn in hell.

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.

christy mumma  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Darlington, South Carolina [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Karen Fagerberg  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Barrington, New Hampshire [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Holly Lundberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sirs,

As with the other recent proposals to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, it looks as though the current ACA repeal bill would cause extreme suffering of millions of people who currently have nowhere to turn besides Medicaid. It would also radically destabilize our economy and cause a lot of hospitals, nursing homes and social service programs to close. I believe the America we know is in grave danger and the majority of the people do NOT want the Graham-Cassidy bill to pass Thank you for your time and consideration, Sincerely, Holly Lundberg Wilmette, Illinois

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Thomas Gathman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wheaton, Illinois [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Aimee Azuremare

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Pasadena, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Yvonne Houle  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Eastchester, New York [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Gary Dowling

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Novato, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

George Williams

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Scottsboro, Alabama [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

The mere fact that this bill could even come to the floor for vote is appalling. This is cruel and heartless, making healthcare unavailable to those who need it most while giving tax breaks to huge corporations, only shows these republicans are pandering to big money while denying their own constituents.

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.

Stephanie McCullough-Lawler  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

NORMAN, Oklahoma [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Timothy Mullen [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.

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Timothy Mullen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
St Charles, Minnesota [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Stanley Owens

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Lakeville, Minnesota [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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John Gasperoni

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
berkeley, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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dani ortolano  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

new york, New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lori Sames [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:34 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.

CEO Lori Sames  
[REDACTED]

Rexford, NY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nikki Richardson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

The underrepresented students I teach 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,  
Nicole Richardson  
Hamden, CT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

Susan Hood  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Hartford, Connecticut [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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Edmund Cardona  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Redwood City, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Ina Clausen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

El Cerrito , California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jane Handy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am against the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Since the Affordable Care Act, for the first time I have had Health Insurance without straining my budget, and I am a Senior - over 60.

I can't believe we constituents, who would lose so much, and have so little time due to working 2-3 jobs, have to waste this time telling our Congress that we DO NOT want our healthcare taken away. How many times must we tell you?

Congress used to be smart - surely you can write a bill that will improve healthcare, not take it away to give tax breaks to the rich. Yes, we know this is just a tax relief bill for the rich, and nothing to do with improving health care.

We will NOT be voting for any Congressmen who approve this ridiculous bill.

Jane Handy

[REDACTED]  
Villa Park IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gerbi, Susan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE:GCHcomments@[finance.senate.gov](mailto:gchcomments@finance.senate.gov)

September 23, 2017

Please do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill for the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. As a breast cancer survivor, I am especially concerned about the loss of coverage (or greatly increased insurance rates) for those with pre-existing conditions.

According to the well-respected Center for Budget and Public Policy, the bill would cause millions of Americans to lose coverage; raise premiums and out of pocket costs for millions of others; cap and cut Medicaid; and undercut protections for people with pre-existing conditions. But these facts won't be public because the Senate will be voting without an analysis from the Congressional Budget Office, which has just said it won't be able to have an estimate of how many millions of people would lose coverage ready by next week.

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.

Please work to delay the vote until it's too late.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Gerbi McIlwain

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Sarah Demb [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

If millions of American citizens go without health insurance and none but the top 5% can pay for health insurance premiums, copayments and medicine without skimping on basic necessities the following will result:

1. Emergency rooms will once again be overwhelmed because under current law they must treat anyone that needs help, regardless of whether the patient can pay for it.
2. Economic indicators will decline because the majority won't have money to buy consumer goods and services if they are spending or saving it all for healthcare.
3. This situation will cause chaos in most states, leaving our society vulnerable to increased levels of authoritarian exploitation in which oligarchs such as the Koch Brothers dictate public policy, ignore the welfare of the people who make them rich, and degrade the rule of law that makes our democracy the global leader.

Do NOT repeal and replace the ACA, unless it is to simultaneously do so with universal single-payer healthcare that avoids gaps in coverage. A bias towards short term monetary gain for the few will bring the majority of Americans to their knees, and Graham Cassidy will ensure this. People will be forced to rely on charities and employers for assistance to obtain healthcare. Productivity will decrease and the market will decline. Institutions like the Magdalena Laundries will thrive once again.

Make America great by providing basic healthcare as a right, not a privilege. Make us the leader in healthcare coverage, not an embarrassment on the world stage. Ensure our health, and in turn grow our economy and strengthen our reputation.

S. Demb

[REDACTED]  
Watertown, MA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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Judi Weiner

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Swampscott, Massachusetts [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Michael Bordenave

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Fresno, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Chuck Brotman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Chuck Brotman  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Raleigh, North Carolina [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gabrielle Shatan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Bill

To whom it may concern,

**I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill.** This bill is no better than the others that came before it and it looks like it may be worse in some ways. While I currently get healthcare through my husband's employer I think ahead to when we are no longer working and need to rely on medicaid for healthcare. I also am able to think about others who already rely on medicaid or on the insurance exchanges. For example, my sister and her husband both work as free lancers. My brother-in-law is a physical therapist who works with infants and toddlers who are born with developmental delays. My sister is a graphic designer. They have two young children. They currently have affordable and decent healthcare through the ACA. They both have pre-existing conditions. They are older parents. If this bill succeeds they are certainly facing a significant increase in their healthcare expenses.

Another worry I have is about my own children who are both young adults making their way in the world. They are both currently covered under our insurance. My concerns about our children are two-fold; one is about their current coverage: that it is necessary, that they are able to stay on our insurance while they make their way towards total independence. Second, when they are getting insurance on their own will they be able to afford it? Our daughter has pre-existing conditions that would certainly mean increased premiums once she is on her own. Moreover if the employer mandate is removed who is to say if they will even get insurance through their jobs. We cannot rely on companies to do the right thing when their bottom line and shareholders are their top priority

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a terrible bill, not just for me and my loved ones but for our country. I want my tax dollars to go towards helping my fellow citizens lead successful lives. I want my tax dollars to go towards helping others who suddenly find themselves facing a cancer diagnosis, as has happened to many people I know. Don't repeal the ACA! Make the ACA better! Healthcare is a right not a commodity.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Shatan  
[REDACTED]

New York, NY [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Charles Uphoff [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Amendment

Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I formerly served as coordinator of the Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Children and Families for Republican Governor, Lee Sherman Dreyfus. I am contacting you to urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Amendment. The highly partisan nature of this amendment and the rush to push it through bypasses regular order and is playing politics with people's healthcare. The things that need to be fixed with the Affordable Care Act can be fixed with bi-partisan support. The Graham-Cassidy amendment would, if passed, result in the loss of health insurance for millions of children and individuals with disabilities or pre-existing conditions, as well as low-income families and elderly in nursing homes who depend on Medicaid for their healthcare and support. Hundreds of hospitals, particularly those in rural areas would be put at risk if the proposed Medicaid cuts go through. Echoing the American Medical Association's admonition, I believe it is your solemn responsibility to "first do no harm." If passed, the Graham-Cassidy Amendment will hurt millions of families including many of your constituents. Wait for the CBO score and then address the issues that need to be fixed with the Affordable Care Act with bi-partisan support, following regular order.

Sincerely,  
Charles Uphoff  
2475 Lalor Rd.  
Fitchburg, WI 535575  
608-835-7283  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Seguin Strohmeier [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on GCH

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to beg Congress to resist any efforts to repeal or weaken the ACA, including mostly recently through the GCH. As you know, all 50 Medicaid directors oppose Graham-Cassidy, as do the majority of Americans. This act would devastate our communities, including those who depend on employers for insurance. It would require states to raise taxes or kick elderly and sick individuals off of Medicaid. Instead of helping people, it would literally be a death sentence for MILLIONS of Americans. As a healthy (for now) American, I am more than happy to subsidize sick American's health care because that is the whole point of insurance--you pay something now to make sure that you can get help when something bad happens, which you wouldn't be able to afford fixing on your own. Not only would Graham-Cassidy undermine the protections and benefits of the ACA, it would undermine the entire insurance market. This is not federalism or states' rights. It keeps the restrictions on states while removing everything that makes the ACA work. The result will be chaos and death.

Finally, passing the GCH bill would be a true blow to our democratic process. The ACA was debated in open sessions for months and months before passage. This bill was written in secret and is being crammed through simply to "do something" in order to preserve Koch contributions to the GOP. You are supposed to be public servants. Please serve the public or resign.

My friends and I depend on the ACA, as do millions and millions and millions of Americans -- 32 million of whom would be kicked off healthcare as a result of this stupid plan.

Please do the right thing. Strengthen the ACA. Don't ruin it.

Seguin Strohmeier  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mark and Cindy Molloy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Knox, Jason (Portman)  
**Subject:** Health care providers and insurers oppose Graham Cassidy

Dear Finance Committee,

As physicians we have followed closely the health care debate and concur with the national physicians groups, hospital groups, insurance companies, patient advocate groups and independent health policy analysts that the bill proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy would hurt patients, especially those with pre-existing conditions. It would create chaos and turmoil within the insurance industry.

Please return to bipartisan efforts to fix what is wrong with our current system.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Molloy, MD  
Cynthia A. Molloy, MD

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Matt Walker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

The Graham-Cassidy bill will harm millions of people. Please don't consider such legislation without even a CBO analysis. Passing this bill is a cruel and irresponsible act of pure politics.

Please look at the ACA and fix things that need fixing, without hurting millions of people.

Sincerely,  
Matt Walker

-----  
Matt Walker  
Nashville TN USA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

Good morning,

I am writing on behalf of myself, my children and my mother. The Graham/Cassidy Bill must be scored by the CBO before there is a vote. How can a decision be made that will have tremendous consequences on every American family without knowing what the ramifications are? This is not the way our democracy is supposed to work. We need to have bipartisan cooperation to find what is the best for all of the people of this country.

My mother is 82 years old, lives on a fixed income. What will happen to her if this healthcare bill is adopted? She is on countless medications every month along with doctor's appointments. How will she be able to afford to take care of her own health if she loses the funding that makes it possible?

I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease four years ago. Autoimmune diseases are not curable. The best we can do is try to maintain. This can't be done without having access to doctors, tests and medications.

My children are young adults who are just starting out on their own. They should be able to have healthcare in this country that they can depend on. When they start to have their own children, they shouldn't have to worry that a pregnancy or a pregnancy complication could put them into more major debt than they already have by way of their student loans.

We need to make this country a better place for our kids. We need to make this country a kinder place. We need to care about each other. The politicians need to stop focusing on their donors and need to start focusing on the people. The people of their states, the people of this country.

Thank you and please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy Bill. Let's have everyone work together and find a compromise that works for everyone.

Dianne Ferrigno



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sue Wallace [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

Senators,  
This bill will destroy American families.  
Vote NO!  
Susan Wallace

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Friedman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender )  
Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it would do harm to a huge number of Americans. Please work to improve the ACA rather than passing this damaging bill.

Michael Friedman

18510  
570-969-6179

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diana Castelnovo-Tedesco [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Leaders:

The Graham-Cassidy will harm millions of people. Passing this bill would be cruel and irresponsible. Please do not do it. It is not in keeping with what this country is all about.

Sincerely,

Diana Tedesco

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Judith McCormick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

I ask that you stop the Graham - Cassidy bill from moving to the Senate for a vote. It appears that the only motivation, according to the Senator Grassley is to repeal the ACA because of a promise the Republicans made to their constituents. We also know that this means to give huge tax cuts to the wealthy and keep the Koch brothers funding Republican campaigns. Keeping the promise seems to be more important than taking healthcare from millions of people. When that promise was made, people did not know how the ACA was going to benefit them.

Now if you look at the polls, people want to keep the ACA. We all know that improvements need to be made, so it seems logical that the Republicans and Democrats should work together to make the ACA stronger. That is what the American people want.

Additionally, a bipartisan group of governors, all 50 Medicaid directors as well as just about every healthcare organization (AMA, ADA, AHA, ACS, ....) has said this is a bad bill.

If this bill is passed, the Republican voters to whom you made this promise will also suffer the consequences of this bill. So while you will be keeping your promise, you will potentially be destroying the lives you count on to keep you in office.

Please consider the great cost of this bill both on the economy and people's lives.

Thank you.

Judith McCormick

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bob Stricker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

I'm very concerned about the severe impact this bill would have on millions and millions of our fellow Americans. As a resident of Florida and formerly of Ohio, I see that billions of dollars will be cut from Ohio's and Florida's current allocation of ACA and Medicaid dollars. The shell game being played re: pre-existing conditions and lifetime caps is worse than anything that the ACA promised and didn't deliver.

It was only seven years ago that one party criticized the other for 'pass it and then read it'. Now we're about to consider a plan by that criticizing party in which we have no idea of the number of people who will lose their ability to afford health insurance and therefore will no longer be able to seek health care (25 million, 28 million, 32 million?).

Is this is an example of how we 'Make America Great Again'? Not in my America!

Robert Stricker  
937-546-3991

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Joyce Daley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy

I am very distressed that this bill has the possibility of passing.

How can a vote be cast for something when we don't know the CBO score! We don't really know what this bill will cost in dollars or suffering.

I was encouraged when I learned of the Alexander/Murray attempt to look at reasonable approaches to fix health care. But now that has been scrapped. We need regular order.

If this bill were truly something to be proud of Republicans would be shining the bright lights on it. Letting any and all see it in full. The fact that the exact opposite is happening tells me all I need to know.

Please do not let this happen.

Respectfully,

Joyce P. Daley  
Villa Park, Illinois

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Gentry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare crisis

Hi,

I am writing to let you know my story and my concern with allowing this healthcare bill to go forward.

I am a 57-year-old single mother of a daughter who is now attending college. I don't make enough money to even be on the affordable care act. I struggle with health concerns as it stands right now and I have absolutely no hope of having any coverage with the new bill that is before you.

I am writing because I fear for the millions of people that will find themselves in my position. No one should have to live with this stress and worry. Healthcare is something I cannot afford. Every year I have the hope of having made more money and being able to get onto the affordable care coverage. I was able to have Medicaid for one year. Then my daughter turned 18 and I lost my coverage.

At present, when I have an issue I go to our local Community Health Center. The doctor there is now the third doctor to tell me that they think I might have lupus. I do not have the money to go to see a rheumatologist to follow up with any of this.

I live in constant pain and the ups and downs of what I also believe to be lupus. Please don't let this bill go through and take away all my hope of sometime being able to afford healthcare.

Sue Gentry  
Florida

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cara McIlwaine [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Regarding Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I wish to go on record as a woman who has benefited this year from maternity care as an essential health benefit. I also wish to speak as the wife of a man with a pre-existing condition and very overpriced medicine he had to take to manage it, even while he was dropped from insurance and unable to get new health coverage for long enough that we still have some of the debt to pay off.

The speed at which this bill is going up for a vote, without waiting for an official CBO score and with the shorts in funding already evident, should be criminal. This bill would hurt more people in the long run than it claims it would help. It would not actively solve the rampant cost and opacity problems across healthcare, from hospitals and insurance to pharmaceutical care and ancillary services.

Thank you for your time,

Cara Mcilwaine  
I care and I vote.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kearsen Meckes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

This bill is not right and it stips millions of the healthcare they desperately need. Please vote No!

Kearsen Meckes

18229  
5707780588

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** vern katz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearings

I strongly feel that this bill should be voted down, or not even brought out of committee. I am a physician, I feel this bill is detrimental to public health in our country.  
Thank you. My area code is 97405.

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Geoffrey Sirc [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy comments

Comments on the Graham-Cassidy (Trumpcare) bill  
for the Senate Finance Committee's hearing on September 25, 2017

It is disgusting to see elected Senators, who are supposed to serve the people, not the Koch brothers, attempt to ruin health care for Americans. The ACA may need tweaking (though it seems to be working fine in states whose governors haven't tried to sabotage it), but it clearly doesn't need repealing. The Graham/Cassidy bill has been roundly denounced by responsible health care groups. Republican senators are only supporting this heinous atrocity to get a 'win' for the President and their party — and \$\$\$\$ from the Kochs — at the expense of people's lives! Work together, Democratic and Republican, to tweak what needs tweaking to current health care (overwhelmingly supported by the majority of the people), and CHANGE THE TOXIC Us/Them rhetoric! Speak truth and reasoned, rational, respectful rhetoric, instead of cynical, deceptive talking points designed to mislead. Try ignoring special interest \$\$\$ and serving the greater American good! Preserving our nation's health care is a good start!

Geoffrey Sirc  
100 Malcolm Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Renee Lorton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE USE COMMON SENSE AND FIND A WAY TO MAKE THE ACA WORK. NO REPEAL OF THE ACA!!

At this point it is very clear that any attempt to repeal the ACA is completely politically driven. The vast majority of Americans do not want to take healthcare away from tens of millions of people. With the ACA the country has realized the importance of healthcare. My suggestion is that insurance company profits are what is cut out, not healthcare for the people in greatest need. Go to a SINGLE PAYER system, remove insurance company profits, put it back into the system, address prescription artificial inflation, and healthcare will be paid for.

Renee L Lorton  
White Rock Advisors  
01.540.550.3721 (cell)  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura SORENSEN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal/Replace of Obamacare will damage the USA

In reference to the full Finance Committee hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, scheduled for Monday, September 25, 2017:

I believe that this bill does nothing to improve healthcare and will do huge damage to the lives of many American families, my own included. I am retired and on Medicare so there will be little to no direct effect on me, but my wife and three adult daughters will definitely be adversely affected. I am particularly concerned for my youngest daughter, a hard-working, strong, independent 27 year-old who had three seizures over two months in 2010. She's been healthy since, but now has a pre-existing condition.

The effect of this bill will be to weaken or eviscerate protections for people with pre-existing conditions. Even if my daughter could technically get insurance, it is likely that she could never afford it.

The overall effect of the bill would take away health insurance from millions of Americans. I find this unbelievably cruel. We are the richest nation in the world, yet we can't seem to provide what every other industrial nation provides their citizens - access to healthcare.

I also think this will come back to electorally bite any Senator that votes for this bill.

Stephen Graseck, Southington CT

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Janell Larocque [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not pass Graham-Cassidy, I do not believe ...

Finance Committee:

I do not believe you make the health insurance marketplace work by preventing the lower segment of society from affording health insurance. Kid yourself all you want we pay for these costs one way or the other and this is a deceitful way of doing it.

If you don't want to take the Democrat's path then get off your duffs and make insurance companies review their model and use less pools. Don't adopt Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you,  
Janell Larocque

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lynnette Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care bill

I am a mature woman, mother of three, worked for over 30 years with persons with intellectual disabilities. Your prospective bill will hurt more people than help. You will lose, they will lose, everyone will lose.

You intentions is evil.

Lynnette Adams  
91001

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** bpstevens87 . [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Without ACA we will have to file medical bankruptcy.

My family deals with a pre existing rare autoimmune disease that came from an otherwise healthy woman. It literally came from nowhere and now it's a lifelong battle. The bills are somewhat manageable now.

But if this bill passes, we will not be able to afford. We both have jobs and it wouldn't be enough. And frankly we aren't spending our entire paychecks because a few politicians don't want to fund healthcare.

We will eventually file bankruptcy. And we'll live our lives not paying hundreds of thousands in medical bills. That's not why we were put on this earth to do. Pay bills and die. Not us.

So please do not pass this bill.

Signed,

A concerned working citizen with pre existing condition.



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Beth Cooper [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Re: Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill  
From: Beth Cooper, 40 Green St, Birdsboro PA 19508

I am writing to express my strongest opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill that is currently before the committee. Despite the statements made by its defenders, it is obvious upon reading it that this bill would be a disaster for healthcare in the United States. The Senate's hurry to rush the bill through has precluded a full CBO score, but the best-available analyses indicate that millions of people would lose their health insurance. Not only would this be devastating for these people personally, but their communities would suffer as well. Hospitals and nursing homes, often the largest employer in a region, would be forced to close due to lack of revenue, putting hundreds of thousands of people out of work and affecting the economies of every state.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill would be a catastrophe for me because I work in the healthcare field in nursing homes and retirement communities and see firsthand the effects of poor insurance coverage and how families struggle to give sufficient care to their elderly loved ones. If subsidies are substantially cut, many healthcare jobs will be eliminated as funding dries up for long-term care facilities. I have a pre-existing condition that would prevent me from getting insurance if that legal protection was eliminated. I have a chronic condition that requires continued care and may hit a lifetime cap if that protection was eliminated and I have a younger brother who relies on Medicaid for health coverage for him and his child.

As you can see, the outcome of this bill is not simply important to me--it is a matter of life and death. I hope you will do the right thing and vote NO on this evil bill.

Beth Cooper

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jennifer Andrews [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy "health" bill

To the mostly old wealthy white men of the republican caucus:

By now America knows just why you want to pass this atrocious abomination of a bill with no discussion, no debate, no comments and no regular order.

To get donor money from old white men who hardly need a tax cut.

We The People DEMAND you listen to us. This bill should be condemned for failure of consideration by regular order, not to mention the damage it does to a full sixth of the economy.

On a personal note, as a white woman who knows exactly what discrimination feels like, having spent my entire professional career in a field dominated by white men, this bill will hurt me personally. Laid off at 60 by my Fortune 100 company because I lacked "gravitas" (code word for a penis), I started a small business. The driver of the economy you say. Right. Barely able to pay for an individual health insurance policy, I will be totally unable to afford the insurance next year. You see, I was given asthma by my cigarette smoking parents as an infant, my father addicted during his service in the Air Force.

Vote this thing down. Remember that Bernie very nearly won the nomination with just small donors. Try doing something for the people for a change, and see if you don't have to walk around with your noses up Charlie Kochs ass any more.

A breath of fresh air.

Vote NO.

Jennifer Andrews

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ruth Berman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 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  
....

Ruth Berman

19096  
610 649 3160

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jo Meyertons [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please don't destroy the ACA

I am 60 years old and depend heavily on the ACA for my health care. I have several health issues that are easily controlled by drugs but need regular monitoring. If you pass the Graham-Cassidy bill, I will suffer greatly.

Please work together across party lines to improve access to health care via the ACA. It really works, if you allow it to work. Let's join the other enlightened countries around the world who prioritize health care for its citizens.

----- Jo Meyertons

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Maria [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello,

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

1) 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?

2) I am very concerned about the language in the bill that allows states to loosen protection for pre-existing conditions. My family will be directly affected by this provision, as my father is suffering from End Stage Renal Failure. We will not be able to afford the extras costs being predicted for his care, and will be effectively priced out of healthcare. In fact, our efforts to keep him well, will no doubt bankrupt us. I am also very ill and need to rely on medication to keep my alive.

3) I am distressed that monies to Medicaid will be reduced so drastically making costs for seniors and the disabled to skyrocket.

From what I've read, this bill does not bring healthcare to more Americans, in fact is predicted that upwards of 30 million will lose their existing coverage. And like before the ACA, people will have to choose between food and getting healthcare. People will die.

In conclusion, I find this proposal bill to be heartless and mean. It really is just a way for the GOP to pay for tax cuts. Rather than helping all Americans, 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 our Congress to work together for a solution

Thank you.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Babb [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy

- 1, to vote without discussion or debate is contrary to senate procedures
2. to vote without a CBO score is to intentionally disregard effects on Americans
3. as stated by several GOP senators; they need to vote in favor of this bill despite is many flaws - puts party propaganda ahead of the will of their constituents, who overwhelmingly support ACA.  
which then questions - for whom is the GOP passing this? Koch, who pledged \$400M to GOP if it passes.
4. buying Alaska but letting it keep ACA means they understand how bad this bill is.
5. carving out Alaska is likely unconstitutional.
6. this plan penalizes states that have taken advantage of ACA funding (mostly Dems) in favor of those who have refused the federal funding (mostly GOP and mostly on political grounds).

NO, NO, NO!

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** stacy shattuck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** wealthcare

I don't understand how this bill is even being rushed through without an accurate and proper CBO score. I don't understand why republicans are going on t.v. and lying about what it will do. I don't understand why our congress would intentionally hurt American people. I don't understand why the bi partisan effort led by Murray and Alexander wasn't encouraged and supported by more republicans. I don't understand why they are offering a bribe to Murkowski if she will vote to hurt the rest of us across the country. I don't understand why we don't all support what Sen. McCain recommended when he called for senate to return to regular order and compromise on a healthcare bill that would actually benefit the American people. I don't understand why I have had to spend days calling senators everytime another horrible version of a repeal bill comes out and beg for my life over the telephone. I don't understand why so many expert opinions too numerous to list here are being ignored. I am concerned for my elderly parents and what they could end up paying. I am concerned about being priced out of the insurance market myself because I have had cancer. I do think healthcare is a right. ACA saved my life because I went for a checkup I could have never afforded and found out I had cancer. I don't understand people who say this bill is not a killer. It is. Obviously. The typical scenario, which would've been me, is that if you don't have insurance, you don't go and get checkups. Then when you are sick enough and suffering, you go to the doctor. At that point, you may have a late stage cancer and a lousy prognosis. You die.

Stacy Shattuck  
Liverpool, NY 13090

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No

Vote no I have a adult son who had Autism He needs his medical need address Thanks Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy Hirschel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fair and humane

Dear Senators,

With all the health care discussions of the past decade, the prevailing ideal for me is that "we" come up with a system that is fair and humane.

Life itself is not fair nor humane. The individuals I work with have physical disabilities. I have a child with both physical and mental disabilities.

However, I would like to believe that our government does its best to be both, no matter what party is making the decisions.

Cutting Medicaid and taking away protection for individuals with pre-existing conditions is both inhumane and unfair.

Repeal and replace, if you must, but please, please do not vote for this bill and allow the protection of the most vulnerable be on the chopping block.

Health care is complicated. Please work on it so that it is fair and humane.... not just an excuse to pull a rabbit out of the hat at the last minute to fulfill a campaign promise.

Sincerely,

Amy Hirschel

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop Graham Cassidy Bill

To Whom it May Concern:

I'm writing to voice my opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill and the break-neck speed at which it's being voted on. We don't even know how it will impact 1/5th of our economy because the CBO has not been able to finish it's score. This is outrageous. Not only that, but everyone who knows anything about the healthcare system is opposed to this new bill. It's clearly not a health bill, but a way to siphon taxpayer money to already wealthy people. Aside from the economic impacts, this bill has serious human impacts. My family has personally benefitted from the ACA. We've gotten better insurance at more affordable price thanks to the subsidies in the ACA. We are self-employed, work hard, but do not get any health benefits. We have to pay for everything ourselves and we can't afford to pay the full cost of health insurance. Because we have health insurance we've been able to get early detection tests and get treated before things become a problem. We've been there before the ACA where we had to buy very bare-bones coverage and spent huge amounts of money. It doesn't work. This legislation will literally kill people! I urge everyone to reject it and instead work in a bipartisan manner to fix the ACA.

Sincerely,  
Jenny Heitler-Klevans

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kevin William Janer, Ph.D. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

As both a healthcare provider and a consumer of medical services, I believe that the Graham-Cassidy bill is an unconscionable attempt by the Republican party to eliminate affordable healthcare for middle- and low-income families while providing tax breaks to the wealthy.

President Trump and GOP lawmakers are flat out lying about coverage for pre-existing conditions and are hiding the significant economic damage that this repeal of ACA will cause. I personally have several pre-existing conditions that will literally kill me if I am not provided with healthcare coverage. Virtually all of my patients have pre-existing conditions because they all have one or more psychiatric and/or neurological diagnoses of conditions that will be excluded from coverage by Graham-Cassidy. This bill WILL KILL THOUSANDS AND EVENTUALLY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, both Democrats and Republicans alike, while driving others into bankruptcy and even homelessness. It must NOT pass!

Dr. Kevin Janer

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Kevin William Janer, Ph.D.  
Clinical Psychologist & Neuropsychologist The Highland Building  
675 Seminole Avenue NE Suite 106  
Atlanta, GA 30307  
Phone: 404.939.6116  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jeremy Gray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 12:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Dear U.S. Senate Committee on Finance:

Perhaps more than any other legislation the Senate has considered in recent years, the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal you are currently considering stands to have a direct and disastrous effect on my family.

I am a small business owner and do not have access to group health insurance. When I left my job in 2015 to create my own urban planning firm, a key factor that enabled my decision was the availability of affordable health insurance from the Exchange that would cover even preexisting conditions. Although my business venture has been successful and I hired my first employee earlier this year, the bill you are considering would drive me out of business because I would have to find employment with a large company that offered group health insurance. My employee would be out of a job. I've heard it said that Obamacare is a job killer. If that's true, Graham-Cassidy is not the answer.

Affordable coverage for preexisting conditions is especially important to me because my five-year-old son was born with a severe heart defect and is disabled. Since he had a heart transplant two years ago he has been thriving. He is smart, funny, a gifted storyteller, and is loving kindergarten, which he started this fall. However, through no fault of his own, his three open-heart surgeries and numerous other medical expenses have already cost more than \$2 million dollars. We have relied on our modest savings; we have held bake sales and raffles. But there is no way we can afford his care without insurance. And there is no way his insurance will be affordable if his heart condition and past claim history (i.e. his preexisting condition) is factored in.

As his parent, I am biased, but I could give you a list of 1,000 friends, neighbors, teachers, church members, and grocery store cashiers who love Everett and would tell you the world is better because he is alive here in it. The Graham-Cassidy Proposal communicates something very different: the legislation you are now considering implies that paying for healthcare is a personal responsibility, that if someone cannot afford care or the insurance that covers it, he or she does not get it.

The bottom line for me is this: whatever legislation you vote for must ensure that Americans all have access to health insurance that, regardless of health status or history, is affordable. America is too good to leave behind its sickest citizens because they cannot afford their healthcare. Other nations have figured this out – now you must too. My family is counting on you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kelley Gray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Letter in Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill  
**Attachments:** letter to Senators opposing Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.pdf

September 21, 2017

### RE: Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

I am a constituent and voter in Atlanta, Georgia, and I am writing in desperate **opposition** to the proposed Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill. This bill would hurt my family and millions like us. Please fix the ACA, don't repeal and destroy our healthcare!

My husband and I are middle-class, educated, small business owners with a child with a severe medical condition and special needs. My husband and I work very hard to provide for our family, to pay our fair share in taxes, and to support our community. But because of our son's medical needs, a loss of comprehensive coverage would threaten our economic security and my son's life.

My miracle son Everett was born with a severe congenital heart defect and has undergone multiple open-heart surgeries including a life-saving heart transplant at the age of 3. He relies on our private insurance and Medicaid for the expensive medical care and medications necessary to keep him alive. Because of our son's disabilities, he qualifies for Medicaid under the Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver program, and because we have private insurance and secondary Medicaid for him, my son is thriving now. But a transplant is not a cure, it is a chronic heart condition; and eventually he will need another life-saving medical miracle. What will happen to him if we lose our private insurance because premiums increase beyond what we can afford, and he loses his secondary Medicaid insurance because of the proposed federal cuts? The annual cost of care for a pediatric transplant patient is approximately **\$80,000** for medications, biopsies, specialist appointments, and other therapies. Our savings would be a drop in the bucket towards this or towards what his inevitable next hospitalization will cost, and there are no amount of bake sales or "Go Fund Me" type fundraisers we could do to raise the estimated **\$900,000** in medical expenses for the next transplant.

The ACA is not perfect, but it has given millions of Americans like us true access to comprehensive healthcare and hope and economic security. Reports show that under the proposed bill, those with private insurance will experience higher premiums and higher deductibles, with lower tax credits to help working families cover the

costs, even as their plans might no longer cover pregnancy, mental health care, or expensive prescriptions. Medicaid for our most vulnerable will be drastically cut. Discrimination based on pre-existing conditions could become the norm again, meaning my son could never afford good health insurance! It is not enough to say that the proposed Senate bill requires insurance companies to offer coverage to people with pre-existing conditions if insurers are still permitted to charge more for those policies beyond what a family can actually afford and with less coverage so that in effect healthcare is not affordable or accessible. **The bill fails to define what counts as “affordable” or “adequate” coverage and it does not outlaw discrimination based on current or past medical issues (i.e. preexisting conditions).** And to suggest that the many millions who will drop from insurance roles will do so because of a choice, is cruel and out of touch. We would only “choose” not to buy insurance because the premiums and deductibles would no longer be affordable.

We are asking you to work across the aisle with your colleagues to improve our healthcare system for every American, whether that means more support for the ACA or a move towards universal or single-payer insurance. Nominal insurance is not enough to meet the needs of children and individuals with complex medical conditions like my son. We need protection for insurance that is **affordable, comprehensive, and accessible!**

In a country as prosperous as ours, in a country that claims to value all life, it is immoral that we have yet to provide true, comprehensive healthcare for all Americans. This should take priority over other federal budget issues. Please don't merely see my son as a line item in a budget. He is a precious child, made in the image of God, who did nothing to deserve the condition he's been dealt. No one in this country should have to fund raise to pay for a heart transplant or cancer treatment or injuries from an accident or even forego treatment because they cannot individually afford health care. We must do better.

Please have the courage to vote against this bill and to fight for hardworking yet vulnerable families like ours. My precious child is counting on you.

Sincerely,

Kelley Gray

879 Confederate Ave SE

Atlanta, Georgia

PH: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I am the Adoptive Mother of Two Special Needs Children who rely on Medicaid

Hello,

I'm an adoptive mother in Georgia. My husband and I adopted our children out of the foster care system. According to experts, The Graham-Cassidy bill will cut more than \$5.7 billion from our state's Medicaid program alone, risking the coverage of more than 1 million Georgia children and hundreds of thousands of seniors and people with disabilities. Among those are my children.

Medicaid has been a lifesaver for us. Since our oldest son first came to live with us at the age of 6, Medicaid has covered psychiatrist visits every one to three months, therapist visits every one to two weeks, all his doctor visits, his dentist visits, and all his medication. Without Medicaid, just one drug alone, Abilify, had a cost of \$800 for a month's supply when we checked in 2010. We could never have afforded to pay these expenses as a middle-class one-income family, much less similar expenses for his younger (biological) brother, whom we also adopted in order to keep them together.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would punish families like ours and make it even harder for us to heal our children. If passed, it will break up families who are already on the edge and drive *more* children *into* the foster care system! Medicaid needs to be supported and expanded, not subject to cruel cuts that will only hurt the most vulnerable in our society: children, the elderly and all those with disabilities. The Graham-Cassidy bill is anti-family and anti-children. The only people it helps is the CEOs of insurance companies.

Regards,  
Hannah Hawkins

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I implore members of Congress not to pass this bill which would adversely impact the health and well-being of millions of people. Yes, health care in the United States is broken, but this bill will only worsen it. Please don't pass a bill which you would not want for your own health insurance. It is simply wrong.

Thank you.  
Janice Smith  
Calhoun, Georgia



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Baca [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** American Health Care

Both I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter has a number of pre-existing conditions and several times could have died if not for health care. Before the ACA, she had not seen a doctor for 10 years. All we could do was pray that she would not develop any of the conditions relating to her pre-existing conditions. The day she received healthcare in the form of Medicaid, was the happiest in my life. I no longer had to look at every bump and scrap on her skin and wonder if this was the infection that might kill her. If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, millions of vulnerable Americans could die. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Lisa M. StevensBaca, San Francisco, California

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Kathy McDonnell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GrahamCassidy healthcare

I am against GrahamCassidy healthcare act.

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jenny Elliott [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No Repeal of ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a farmer with type 1 diabetes and need the ACA to stay healthy and keep in business. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

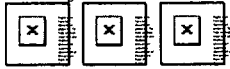
Sincerely,

Jennifer Elliott

Copake, NY

--  
Jenny Elliott  
Farmer / Owner  
Tiny Hearts Farm  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*find us on:*



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah Bartlett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** G-C Health"care" Bill Unconscionable

Dear Senate Finance Committee-

It would be egregious malpractice to bring the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill to a vote - before analysis, before debate. I have read that millions will lose healthcare if Republicans vote yes for this travesty. I understand there are no experts that support this bill. Destroying healthcare for millions of Americans in the name of tax cuts for the wealthy will kill whatever remaining thread of credibility remains in the Republican party. This action is a serious blow to the democratic process in the United States, and will not be forgiven. I, and the majority of Americans, desperately urge you to "do no harm."

Thank you

Sarah Bartlett  
Los Angeles, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jeanne Healy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care / ACA / Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We do not have employer-sponsored health insurance, we have to purchase it on our own. We all have pre-existing conditions. The instability in government is causing an instability in the insurance market. I would like to see both branches quit attacking health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Healy  
Chittenango, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michelerenee Renaud [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:14 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.

Ms. Michelerenee Renaud  
[REDACTED]  
Wappingers falls, NY 12590  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nathaniel Day [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: please do not vote for the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Excuse me -- the first sentence of my message should read "My family relies on quality affordable healthcare."

Thank you,  
Nathan Day

On Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 6:03 PM, Nathaniel Day <[nathan.a.day@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.a.day@gmail.com)> wrote:

Senators:

My on quality, affordable healthcare. One of my closest friends from high school is independently employed and has recently been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Because of these facts, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. If Sara were not able to afford high-quality affordable coverage through the ACA, her health and her ability to provide for her family would suffer. The Graham-Cassidy bill will allow states to create markets in which many pre-existing health conditions will be only technically insurable -- few working families will be able to afford plans that cover them. Moreover, many women and families in rural areas rely on Planned Parenthood for various aspects of their healthcare. If they had no access to clinics, they would suffer. Also, Medicaid funding needs should be met; we should not turn a blind eye to the health care needs of poor and working families by parceling money in block grants to states. The great cry against socialized medicine in the United States is that it would ration health care -- well, we have been rationing health care in the US: only the wealthy and well-insured can get the care they need. Obamacare has alleviated this condition somewhat, but the Graham-Cassidy bill would make this condition worse.

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

Sincerely, Nathan Day

Washington, DC

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lee Basnar [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.

Lee Basnar

[REDACTED]  
1900 Kachina Trail

Sierra Vista, Arizona 85650



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Watts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

Please leave the ACA alone. Make the necessary updates that it needs and move on. OR BETTER YET MEDICARE FOR ALL.

Sincerely  
Linda Watts  
Crossville, Tn.

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** eulalia h. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. While I am fortunate enough to currently have employer-sponsored insurance, I am cognizant of the fact that this may not always be the case. As a woman with pre-existing conditions, access to quality, affordable healthcare is paramount. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Thank you.

Eulalia E. House  
Chicago, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Harris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Please Keep The Affordable Care Act!!!

My family, as with all other families, relies on affordable healthcare and because of this I oppose the Graham-Casidy bill. My sister has Rheumetoid Arthritis, my husband is being watched for Glaucoma and has high blood pressure, my family has a history of breast cancer and my daughter has hypothyroidism - all of these qualify as pre-existing conditions - There is NO guarantee that all persons with pre-existing conditions would receive healthcare under the Graham-Cassidy Bill which is opposed by every medical institution in the country, a majority of governors and all the major insurance companies.

Please be statesmen and stateswomen and do the RIGHT THING - don't pass this very destructive bill, but, INSTEAD work on a Bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, NOT repeal it.

Thank you.

Robin Harris

Amherst, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Margaret Conway [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I 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,

Margaret Conway

Chicago, IL

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** James Florance [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

James Florance  
[REDACTED]

20827 Howland Ave W Apt 220  
Lakeville, Minnesota 55044

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Eliza Thomson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. We Are Against the Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our country is supposed to be based on freedom and no one is really free if they live in fear of bankruptcy due to medical bills. If we as citizens have to base where we live, where we work, and what we do in our lives on concerns around our healthcare coverage, this is not the land of the free. We have become a fear-based culture because of our lack of universal healthcare. It doesn't have to be this way. It is not this way in other countries. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Eliza Thomson

Townshend, Vermont

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kirsten Laage [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.

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Kirsten Laage

[REDACTED]  
950 Euclid St, Apt. C  
Santa Monica, California 90403

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marcia Sherman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

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

Marcia Sherman  
[REDACTED]

521 N. La Cumbre Rd #42  
Santa Barbara, California 93110



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sylviawaddellart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare through ACA. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will raise our costs and reduce coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Sylvia Waddell  
Auburn, CA

Sent from my Verizon. Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Ellen Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please get rid of this bill

My son is looking at a lung transplant because of his Cystic Fibrosis - he will lose coverage or won't be able to afford health insurance if you pass this bill.

Give up your current health insurance and join the rest of us who elected you to represent our interests! What would your families think if this bill affected them!

I work for a non-profit health insurance company administering United States Family Health Plan insurance to retired military and their spouses as well as to families of active military - they need better health insurance as well.

Work with all parties, medical experts, governors and fix the health care problem so everyone has good health care coverage - not just politicians. Elections are coming up and we will remember how you vote. Listen to your constituents - not the lobbyists, wealthy, or big business. You work for us - they buy you off.

Your true stripes will show by how you vote.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Janet Graham [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

Janet Graham  
[REDACTED]

5054 La Ramada Drive  
Santa Barbara, California 93111

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeanne Kavanagh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill - NO!

This bill is a vicious attempt to pacify right wing donors, not an improvement to health care! Fix the ACA, don't destroy it.

Jeanne Kavanagh  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Kilpatrick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Keep and improve the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid and disabilities is my son was born with cerebral palsy and lives in a group home. He cannot work and relies on Medicaid. I would like to see a bipartisan efforts to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Julie Kilpatrick

Stillwater MN 55082

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham and its impact on healthcare

To Whom It Concerns{and it concerns us all}

As an RN of 26 years experience, and one who has worked in Neonatal Intensive Care at an inner city county hospital, an affluent regional medical center, as a discharge planner and with clients who had just been released from prison in a residential drug rehab.....as an RN with experience I can tell you that this healthcare bill will greatly hurt us all.

Preventative healthcare is important, and saves money in the long run. Insured people are healthier people. This bill does not help people get insurance nor stay insured.

This bill makes insurance less affordable than ever.

This mean spirited bill hurts families in many ways, and will further impact them as they have to care for elderly parents who are priced out of the insurance market, taking workers out of the workforce and money out of homes which cannot afford to lose income.

It will allow lifetime limits which means many infants born with health issues will be out of insurance before they are out of the hospital.

This bill gives the pretense of making insurance available when it actually is just another shiny object most people cannot afford.

The bill is harmful to Americans. People will die if this bill is passed. I live in Texas and have experienced what 'red' states and their governors will do, and what they will do is let people get sick and die to prove a political point.

The situation out here in the real world is much worse than you know.

Thank you

Geri Elkins-Alexander, RN

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Edna Mullen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

Edna Mullen  
[REDACTED]

1272 Richland Avenue  
Saint Charles , Minnesota 55972

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Jerry Rukavina [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.

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Jerry Rukavina  
[REDACTED]

300 24th Ave So

Great Falls, Montana 59405



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Karen Holley [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.

Karen Holley  
[REDACTED]

19156 Ludlow st

Porter ranch, California 91326

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Mary Ann Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy

To Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Graham/Cassidy is a truly horrible bill that will cause millions of people to lose their healthcare and will have a negative impact on our economy. It is a cynical, partisan attempt to pass a bill, any bill-no matter the consequences, so that members of the GOP can please their big donors (the Koch brothers) and fulfill a campaign promise. The problem is that it is a terrible bill that will backfire for the GOP because many of their constituents like their Obamacare and will not take kindly to losing it! Also, this bill has not been properly vetted with all stakeholders--the American people, the states, insurance companies, doctors and other health care providers, hospitals and nursing homes. [Note: 6 in 10 Americans want Obamacare to continue. People polled said that they •like having health care that they can afford •that covers pre-existing conditions and •provides mental health and substance abuse services and •maternity care. They like that their insurance company •can't impose lifetime caps on their coverage, in case they or a member of their family becomes seriously ill and needs ongoing life-saving care. •They also like that Obamacare pays the full cost for yearly preventive care (well woman exams, mammograms, prostate exams, flu shots, etc.)]

Health Insurers, governors of many states, hospitals, universities, doctors (M.D.s & D.O.s) and a long list of organizations that represent their specialties, other healthcare providers (nurses, P.A.s, medical assistants, lab technicians, etc.,) the American Psychiatric Association, psychotherapists, counselors, clinical social workers, family therapists, substance abuse professionals, economists and many religious organizations have all come out against this cruel bill.

Graham/Sanders is a cynical attempt to ram yet another piece of "repeal and replace" legislation through the Senate in two weeks, without going through the true legislative process of committee hearings, extensive bipartisan debate, amendments, vetting those who will be impacted by the bill and finding out what the true financial impact of the bill will be, which requires waiting for the report from the Congressional Budget Office.

This bill represents something close to the 60th time that the GOP has tried to repeal the ACA and the 3rd attempt at writing replacement legislation. Graham/Cassidy is by far the WORST bill yet!! It guts Medicaid as we know it, takes away federal subsidies that help low and middle class Americans pay for their insurance premiums, defunds Planned Parenthood, removes protections for people with preexisting conditions, blows up the exchanges and awards block grants to states to somehow create affordable health care. BY FAR THE WORST PART OF THIS BILL IS THAT THE STATES DO NOT GET EQUAL BLOCK GRANTS. Those states who chose not to expand Medicaid to allow more of their citizens affordable health care are rewarded bigger chunks of money than states who chose to expand medicare and developed exchanges in order to provide access to affordable care for more of their people.

The healthcare industry powers 1/6 of the US economy. Graham/Cassidy would destabilize the US economy and create chaos in our healthcare systems.

Please vote NO on the Graham/Cassidy legislation!! We need to resume the work that Senator Lamar Alexander and Senator Patty Murray had begun to stabilize the ACA insurance marketplaces and then do other innovative things to improve a law that has already done so much good and saved so many lives, including mine.


Respectfully,

MaryAnn Brown, M.A., LMFT

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

2030 E. 4th St., Suite 134C

Santa Ana, CA 92705

  
714-648-0963 (W)

562-260-2983 (C)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katherine Hamilton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** physician opposing Graham Cassidy bill

I'm a neurologist who has worked in several states over the last few years (PA, CA, NY) and in both private and public/county hospitals. Based on my experience as a physician, I feel that the Graham Cassidy bill would deal a huge blow to the healthcare system - to hospitals, physicians, and most importantly patients - and disproportionately harm our most vulnerable patients who rely on Medicaid subsidies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Hamilton, MD  
Montefiore Headache Center, Bronx, NY  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joy Mielke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

Dear Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My in-laws are 88 and 93 years old and living independently in their own home. But, my father-in-law has severe mental issues and my mother-in-law has been showing signs of dementia for years. They can no longer afford to live on their pension alone and need to hire outside care to assist them in their home. They are hard working middle class citizens who live a frugal life but have found themselves in a situation where they need to depend on medicaid. Without affordable healthcare and medicaid, they will be forced to sell their house. I hate to see such wonderful people have to suffer so much at the end of their life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Joy Mielke

New York City, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lori Philo-Cook [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Current Healthcare Proposal

I do not support the current Republican healthcare bill. It is worse than the previous bill.

Many states are ill-equipped to manage healthcare at the state level, having no structure and little expertise.

Then this plan rips the funding away in 10 years, which just postpones the traumatic impacts of this bill. States like Oklahoma and Alaska, where my family lives, would never be able to afford it. The small population cannot support it.

The proposed program just passes the buck to the states and will hurt the poor, middle class, the elderly, people with pre-existing conditions and small business owners. The only people who won't be hurt are the wealthy and anyone with a plan through their place of work.

It is shocking to me that Republicans would say this is an improvement over our current healthcare. It is not.

Instead, I would like to see a bipartisan effort to fix the problems we have with our current plan. It is not perfect, but it can be fixed. Let's focus on that instead of throwing together a plan that many have not read or analyzed to meet some contrived deadline.

Please don't vote for this healthcare plan.

Lori Philo-Cook, CFMP  
Yukon, OK  
Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Not Good Enough

There has got to be a better way to reform healthcare than this stupid bill. Keep working at it, you'll figure it out

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lisa Fox [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello Senators,

I am a California Business owner, able for the first time to obtain health insurance due to the Affordable Care Act. In 2015, I was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer and underwent a year of treatment. I am now free of cancer. I am grateful to be alive, to be able to raise my son, and to contribute to society. Affordable health insurance must be a top priority for the lawmakers' agenda! I urge you to vote no on the Graham Cassidy Bill and to continue to make strong efforts to retain the protections that the Affordable Care Act provides for those with pre-existing conditions, disabilities and other health challenges.

Thank you,

Lisa Fox  
15346 Big Dog Rd  
Penn Valley Ca 95946  
530 477-7330  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cynthia McMurray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop Graham-Cassidy now

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,

Cynthia

Cynthia T. McMurray, Ph.D.  
Senior Scientist  
Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory  
1 Cyclotron Rd  
33R249  
Berkeley, CA 94720

[REDACTED]  
510-486-6526 Office

510-486-6880 Fax

510-486-4238 Administrative assistant, Michael Lubenow ([MHlubemow@lbl.gov](mailto:MHlubemow@lbl.gov)).

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tracy Stanford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

My family and many friends rely on quality healthcare. As a pharmacist, I am held to the highest standards. A single error could harm a person, and I will not tolerate that from myself, nor should anyone else. This bill stands to harm many, including the elderly and small children.

When will Congress put aside the ridiculous party politics and start holding themselves to the highest standard, too? It's time to work together like reasonable people and make things better. This is about Americans, not the companies that line pockets of politicians. Please do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill.

Tracy Stanford  
Grinnell, Iowa

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Trump care must die

Dear Finance Committee;

You must try to put aside partisan politics and LISTEN to your constituents. I am writing from very rural northern California today to ask you to keep the ACA and work to make it better. Our local hospital would be in grave danger of closing if we can't keep Medicare and Medical going strong. Our annual income averages about 24K per year, here in Siskiyou County. Many many seniors and low income folks depend on these programs. I dont' believe we can afford to go back to back room abortions, no maternity care and sick elderly people without a safety net. Do not fail the American people. Do the right thing and keep the ACA, vote no on Trump care (Graham-Cassidy).

Thank you

Ayn Perry, Yreka CA 96097

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christine Jauregui [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:58 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 neither the public nor elected officials have the opportunity to adequately evaluate it. In particular, this bill lacks a Congressional Budget Office score.

Given the lack of transparency and analysis around the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal, I can only conclude that efforts to pass this bill are motivated by vindictiveness rather than genuine concern for constituents. With all due respect, Congressmen, your ability to access high-quality, affordable healthcare is not in peril. But it is for tens of millions of Americans. As such, I will not silently stand by while the Republican Administration and its Senate allies try to disguise tax relief for the uber-wealthy as "improvements" to health care policy.

Christine Jauregui

02045  
617-460-5384

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Lou Malone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Devastating Changes Proposed to Medicaid: Attn Senate Finance Committee

The proposed changes to Medicaid will be devastating to millions of people.

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill which would have a devastating impact on people with disabilities by cutting Medicaid. The projected loss to Maryland will be about \$5 billion dollars compared to what is currently covered under the ACA.

Among other things, the bill will eliminate the requirement that preexisting conditions be covered. Just as a frame of reference, Maryland's FY 2017 budget includes more than \$10 billion for Maryland's Medicaid program, which currently provides basic health coverage for more than 1.2 million income-eligible Marylanders. The total budget for the Developmental Disabilities Administration is \$1.1 billion.

Put yourselves in the shoes of these families who will suffer. Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

>> Mary Lou Malone 30448 Belmont Dr. Trappe MD 21673  
410.725.0716

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Cheryl Gaysunas Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE DO NOT PASS THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee

I am an almost 50 year old woman. I have (knock wood) been healthy all my life. We have had health insurance through my husband's work. My husband and I have an almost 13 year old daughter. I know that at any moment our lives could be turned completely upside-down if one of us fell ill, but especially if something happened to my husband's work.

There is no safety net when one loses their health insurance. And millions of Americans will die under this proposed bill because it will remove any version of a safety net that we have.

It does NOT IN ANY WAY benefit the American people. It does NOT help this country financially. How can it even be brought to a vote when so many institutions, including health insurance companies, say that it will be destructive to our health care system and possibly even our economy??

PLEASE DO NOT PASS the GRAHAM-CASSIDY bill. It is a bill that seems to exist simply out of spite. Even Senator Grassley said there is nothing good about it. It is not a health care bill. It is a death sentence.

Please help the American people and do not let this bill come to the floor for a vote.

Sincerely



Cheryl Gaysunas Williams  
2344 W Cullom Ave Apt 1  
Chicago IL 60618

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Anderson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

The ACA is a relatively conservative healthcare plan. It is moderate and covers the majority of Americans. Bottom line it's working! The Graham-Cassidy bill before Congress is an insult to Americans, especially Women. Pregnancy as a "pre" existing condition, come on! Quit trying to appease Trump! Move on to more pressing issues such as jobs and the Economy. Leave the ACA as is. Tweak it if you must, but don't be ridiculous! Thank you

Linda J Anderson  
Noblesville, IN 46062

[REDACTED]

*Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Droid*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Francha Davis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Latest Republican Healthcare bill

To anyone left on the Finance Committee who actually cares about the American people at all:

I am horrified that Republicans would even propose legislation that will hurt so many people, much less that it might get even close to 50 votes. You people were elected to make things better for people, not cut their medical care to give tax increases to people who CLEARLY don't need more money.

Beyond the moral outrage of even considering such a bill, the costs of cutting preventative and health maintenance care are increased exponentially by throwing people off their insurance and in to hospital emergency rooms. The average voter pays one way or the other, and pays a lot more when medical care is withheld until people need emergency care.

Please, please--for once--consider the actual policy implications of your vote, instead of just the politics.

Francha Davis



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shari Zanetti <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill that would double, at least, the \$15,000 I am paying for Health care premiums today. My story of congenital pre-existing physical deformations will cost me the ability to have affordable health insurance with this bill. I am retired and on a fixed income. I am not yet old enough for Medicare or Medicaid. Where do you think a retired individual with pre-existing illnesses can find health care?

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

Sincerely,

Shari Zanetti  
Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeanne Frost [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

In my personal situation I would not be able to survive without Medicaid and Medicare. My pre-existing conditions such as arthritis, genetic blood disorder, balance problems, and vision loss could not be cared for. I cannot drive, have limited vision and depend solely on my Social Security to survive.

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

Sincerely,

Jeanne Frost

Vancouver, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Kristin Felix [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.

Kristin Felix  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

OLYMPIA, Washington 98502

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Becky Acevedo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act

I am a 63 year old widow of an American veteran. I purchase my health insurance through my state's exchange under the ACA. Without the ACA and the affordable healthcare I receive I would be at risk of losing my home due to an emergency medical situation. While I am currently healthy, at my age one never knows how long that will continue. I have a family history of colon cancer and I rely on life saving cancer screening that are guaranteed under the ACA. 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,  
Becky Acevedo  
Port Angeles, WA 98362

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lisa Vander Vliet [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

To Whom it May Concern,

I rely on affordable healthcare, as do we all. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I work in public health, and I see every day the positive impacts that access to healthcare makes, not just to individuals, but to our society as a whole. When we make sure that our neighbors health is better, our health is better. When the poor have their health needs met, the rich also benefit from living in a healthier society.

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

Sincerely,

Lisa Vander Vliet  
Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lyn Hertz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Health Care

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have several family members who have needed to rely on Medicaid in order to receive life saving surgeries and doctor visits to preserve their health. When I retired two years ago, I would not have been able to afford healthcare if I had been disqualified because of my pre-existing condition.

I understand that the ACA needs improvement , however, to repeal it would be disastrous for millions of Americans.

I would like to see a continuation of the efforts of Senetor Patty Murry and others towards creating a bipartisan Congressional plan to improve the ACA. Repeal is going backwards, improvement is going forward.

Sincerely,

Frances Hertz

Olympia, WA.

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Mary A Johnson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Loss of affordable health care hurts everyone

Finance Committee,

Each political assault on affordable health care increases the chances for the economy to tank for most Americans, since most of the bankruptcies of the past were due to very high debt for medical care for someone in a family. The gap between the money coming in to middle and lower classes is stagnant, while to profit for all sorts of American businesses, including the businesses making medical devices, is way out of proportion to their costs. We need fair tax policies that help lower the deficit instead of increasing the disparities between Americans of each economic situation. Stop playing with health care subsidies, and dangerous tax inequities, if our entire culture is going to grow and thrive. Have courage. Most of us are watching and alarmed at the flagrant pandering to the very rich and the devaluing of everyone else.

Mary A Johnson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Seattle, Washington 98165

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** jjordan <[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.

jjordan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Richland, Washington 99352



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richard Brideson <[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.

Richard Brideson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Everett, Washington 98208

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tamara Saarinen [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.

Tamara Saarinen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Gig Harbor, Washington 98335

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ian Breuser [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.

Removing access to affordable health coverage and removing consumer protections may have the short term effect of slowing the rise in insurance premiums seen since implementing the Affordable Care Act (ACA), but will have great costs on our economy. For example, people who can not afford health coverage will eventually use emergency room services, which they can not afford to pay for. This will result in higher medical costs for the rest of us. Another economic cost is people leaving the workforce from treatable health conditions and illnesses that they can not afford to treat.

I urge the members of the Senate Finance Committee to reject the Graham-Cassidy health bill because of these economic costs and because it is immoral to remove access to a basic human necessity (health care) for low income and chronically ill individuals. It will reduce the quality of life and well being in the U.S. and is not what most Americans want. Thank you.

Ian Breuser

Ian Breuser  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

ISSAQUAH, Washington 98027

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Larry Hansen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:17 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.

Larry Hansen  
[REDACTED]  
Everett, WA 98203  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Heidi Colkitt [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.

Heidi Colkitt  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Puyallup, Washington 98372

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Shannon Solie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

**Script:** My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a single parent, I managed to put myself through graduate school and work as a mental early clinician. Private practice was the plan that best allowed me to be home and present with my child during the hours that he is out of school. He is covered on Medicaid for health insurance and I am still working to be able to afford health insurance for myself through the ACA. ACA is not perfect, it is not affordable, however, without it my son and many of my clients would not have health care coverage and would then not have care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Shannon solie

Seattle wa

Shannon Solie  
Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lynne Hyerle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Americans need quality, affordable 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,

Lynne Hyerle

Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristin Courtemanche <k[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

My family will suffer if this bill is passed, there is no other way to put it. I have 3 children, two of whom have special needs that would be regarded as pre-existing conditions and disqualify them from insurance. I have pre-existing conditions myself and would also be disqualified.

My husband and I are hardworking Americans who already struggle to meet our family's needs. Please don't let the Graham-Cassidy bill hurt us and the millions of other Americans who face similar or worse challenges.

Your duty is to represent ALL Americans. Hear us. Represent us. Do right by us.

Thank you,  
Kristin

Seattle, WA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jean Tavener <[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.

Jean Tavener  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Spokane, Washington 99218

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Rick Kirkman <[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.

Rick Kirkman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Anderson Island, Washington 98303

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Julie Martinson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:03 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.

Julie Martinson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Everett, WA, Washington 98201-[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Robbers <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My 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 affordable healthcare is not unique; many people around our nation require it! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Robbers  
Kent, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Parker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:07 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.

Deborah Parker  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Bellingham, Washington 98229-7949

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Arissa Rench <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Against Repeal of ACA

Dear Sir or Madam,

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

As a single working mother, I would not have been able to secure quality healthcare for my son and myself without the ACA. All Americans deserve access to high-quality, affordable health insurance. This is a basic human right, not a commodity.

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

Sincerely,

*Arissa H. Rench, Seattle WA*

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** BONNIE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Republican Health Care Bill

Please, you CANNOT let this bill go forward. If the CBO has not analyzed it yet, you cannot know how it will affect everyone. You cannot play these games with peoples' lives. Please work together in a bipartisan way, to fix whatever is not working well with the ACA.

You all swore an oath to uphold the Constitution, which clearly states that you, the government, must provide for the COMMOM GOOD. This does not mean the few wealthy, or well connected, but everyone as best possible. This bill is horrible, and will hurt millions upon millions of vulnerable people.

Stand up and show that you are working for everyone.  
Otherwise, you will have a career change in 2018 and beyond.

Remember, this government is for the people, meaning everyone. And bipartisanship is not a dirty word. You know very well that the vast majority of the people want problems solved, not this continuous rancor and name calling. Do your jobs!

Thank you,  
Bonnie Gretz  
Coupeville, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Hal Rumsey [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.

If healthcare doesn't work for ALL Americans, IT DOES NOT WORK!

Hal Rumsey

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Spokane, Washington 99223



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amelia Apfel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal the Affordable Care Act

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,

Amelia Apfel

Seattle, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Howard Clark <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:23 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.

Howard Clark  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Olalla, Washington 98359

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** C Stay <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,  
Concerning the hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25,  
2017: I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Chris Stay

[REDACTED]  
Edmonds WA 98020

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debra Cook [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

I am a 2X BREAST CANCER survivor and fear what this new non healthcare proposal might mean to us survivors at risk for metastasis to other parts of our body as we all are now in the category of PREEXISTING CONDITION!

Coverage for ESSENTIAL CHECKUPS to catch any signs of recurrence would be non existent

If there is a LIFETIME CAP we probably have already surpassed the cap.  
Insurers could raise premiums to such high amounts that we would basically have no choice but to lose everything we have worked so hard for HOME, CAR, FOOD!

Basically as productive contributing citizens with cancer we would be left out in the cold and added to the DEATH PANEL this bill represents!

Please do not even let this get to the floor just stop this administration from sabotaging ACA and allow fixes to be made 88% of the country approves of the ACA and the protections it provides

Sincerely,  
Debra Cook  
Washington State

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nan Holcomb <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** "Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017"

Senators:

I respectfully request that you do not approve the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. I can not understand why the Republicans of the House and Senate seem to be determined to destroy the health care of millions of Americans, including people like me who are on Medicare, and people with pre-existing conditions, and poor children. Please don't tell me that health care will be "available" with this proposal. It's "available" now. So is a privately guided tour around the world, a fabulous house in the Hamptons, a Tesla and thousands of other things. Health care with this proposal will NOT be affordable. Please read the proposal, and you will see for yourself what a disaster it will be for all American people. Thank you for your attention.

Nancy Kaye Holcomb  
[REDACTED]  
Seattle, WA 98125

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nicole Gustavsen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** RE: Graham/Cassidy bill

Greetings,

I am writing to *strongly* oppose the Graham/Cassidy bill. I rely on access to affordable, quality healthcare to live. I have lived my entire adult life with debilitating mental illness and have only been able to function because of treatments, therapies, and medications I have received because of health insurance. Without affordable health insurance I will not be able to access the medications and therapy I need to continue working and living a semi-functional life. I and millions of other mentally ill Americans beg that you seek a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Nicole Gustavsen  
Bothell, WA (98012)

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*Nicole R. Gustavsen, MLIS*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Melody R. Palmer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 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 husband and I are fortunate to have employer-provided healthcare, but need the assurance that we could still afford healthcare for ourselves and our two children if we lost our jobs.

How do lawmakers expect to encourage people to start small businesses when they have no guarantee of health coverage if they are self-employed? How can some lawmakers claim to be pro-life, but not guarantee prenatal care for pregnant women?

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

Sincerely,

Melody Palmer

Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Peggy J. Printz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve ACA, not repeal

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.

Thank you,  
Peggy J Printz  
Seattle WA



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rebecca Wolf-Nail <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

My sister and her husband work with the developmentally disabled in the state of Oregon. Their work saves lives and helps people who would otherwise be living in institutions have productive lives. All of their work is done through Medicaid, and the Graham Cassidy bill, if passed, would end it.

In my sister's own words: "Several of my friends and colleagues, who I love very much, are facing likely death or loss of all independence, health, and access to everyday activities if this happens. Others of my friends are imagining what it will be like to watch their children die when they lose access to medication and nursing services."

I also have personal friends who depend on Medicaid for treatment of illnesses ranging from cancer to MS. This bill would cut coverage out from under them. They have no other recourse.

I am a taxpayer. While I am in favor of lower taxes, I am not willing to have that happen at the expense of these people's lives, some of the most vulnerable members of our society. I would ask every man and woman who will be voting on the Graham Cassidy bill to deeply consider the effect it will have in terms of human life and suffering. You will be directly responsible for the outcome.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Wolf-Nail  
Redmond, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Adrienne Leistner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing 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 husband has an autoimmune disorder that has robbed him of one of his organs. We can't be further robbed by the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will remove the protection given to those with pre-existing conditions by ACA. Yes, ACA can be improved. I work in healthcare, I know. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Adrienne Leistner  
Seattle, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have relied on Medicaid in the past and may need it in the future. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julien Goulet

Seattle, Wa

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Butterfield [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Heller bill comments  
**Attachments:** Graham Cassidy comment letter to Senate Finance Committee.docx

Dear Senators:

I am a nurse practitioner living in Washington state. I am writing today to share with you some of the many reasons why the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill must not pass.

First of all, we all know that the moment that states are not required to cover pre-existing conditions, then that provision will go away. On a personal level, I can name 20 people close to me who have deadly or debilitating pre-existing conditions. My brother lost his entire right leg and right pelvis to cancer. That cancer wasn't a "lifestyle" decision mistake that he could have prevented; it's called getting sick. As a professional, I deal with patients who have pre-existing conditions all day long. Sometimes I get to deliver the news that they now have a pre-existing condition! What kind of a society punishes people for having a human body or being born with a congenital defect?

Second, we all know that the moment that states are allowed to "cave" on "essential benefits", most meaningful healthcare coverage will disappear. What kind of a society doesn't cover maternity benefits? -Are we not all human, and therefore "woman-born"? What kind of a society doesn't cover rehab services for stroke victims or medications for patients who are sick or well-child exams for children (which benefits us all because it keeps the children *healthy*!!) or emergency services for people who have accidents (isn't that the whole idea of insurance?)!!! In the midst of an opioid crisis, what kind of "health insurance plan" would not cover addiction and substance abuse treatment? When we know that the mind and body are inextricably connected, what kind of a "health insurance plan" would not cover mental health services?

What kind of "improved" healthcare system would disproportionately punish women just because their bodies are more complex than men's bodies or because they live longer and earn less in their lifetime --and are therefore more highly represented among Medicaid and Medicare recipients? The last time I checked, the ability of the human race to continue as a species was literally dependent on women. So why is this bill so unwilling to give coverage to womens' bodies – especially the parts having to do with human reproduction?

What kind of "improved" healthcare system would disproportionately negatively impact our senior citizens, residents of rural areas, the disabled, children, the poor, minority populations, women, and veterans (because not all veterans choose to receive their services through the VA system)?

I know that I am writing here to the [Finance.Senate.Gov](http://Finance.Senate.Gov), so I will also state that it has been proven many times over that when we pay for health services up front, we actually save money. As a medical professional, I see this all the time. The breast cancer that could have been (a) detected (b) treated early in its progression becomes far more serious (costing much more in treatment services and causing much more disability) or fatal. How many more diabetics' limb amputations (and renal disease and blindness and dementia and heart disease and....) will we be forced to pay for because these people didn't have access to healthcare earlier in their disease process?

What kind of a Congress do we have that would rush through the Graham Cassidy legislation without the benefit of CBO score?

There are many more arguments that I could make here to buttress my main point here, but I will stop. The Graham Cassidy healthcare legislation is cruel, unethical, unscored by CBO, opposed by most major medical professional organizations, opposed by most major patient advocacy organizations, and many insurance providers.

Please listen to your constituents across America and see the Graham Cassidy bill for the disaster that it is. Graham Cassidy is unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Carol H Butterfield, RN, ARNP

 Seattle WA 98199

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandra Holden Montag <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GrahamCassidy hearing

Dear Members of the Finance Committee of the Senate,  
Are you SERIOUS! This bill is terrible and will result in the loss of insurance and health care for millions of people. Of course we don't know the exact numbers because we don't have a CBO score  
Insurance companies, professional organizations, doctors, nurses are all opposed to this. These are the experts. Why aren't you listening to them? Are you so desperate to kill anything Obama that you will vote against your constituents and literally kill them with this bill.  
It's time to end the dysfunction and work on a bipartisan bill. GROW UP!!!

Sandy Montag  
[REDACTED]  
White Salmon, WA 98672

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nikki Guillot [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy/TRUMPCARE

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. America is not a place where someone should have to choose between healthcare and bankruptcy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Monica (Nikki) Guillot

Vancouver WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Helen Pressley [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.

Helen Pressley  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tumwater, Washington 98512



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Gwen Purdy <[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.

Gwen Purdy

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Poulsbo, Washington 98370

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elsie Anderson <[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.

Elsie Anderson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Bothell, Washington 98011

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Susan Heywood <[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.

Susan Heywood

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tacoma, Washington 98408

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Grant <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

My family and I rely on affordable, quality 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,  
Emily Grant

Seattle, Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Richard Penny [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.

Richard Penny  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Olympia, Washington 98503

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Diane Yates [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

This bill will strip healthcare from 32 million Americans. Giving block grants to the states is a way to reduce funding and ultimately eliminate Medicaid. It is a cruel and dishonest effort to resolve healthcare issues in this country. It is an effort to ensure that there's a source of funding for tax cuts for the rich and to keep Republicans wealthy donors happy.

It's time to work in a bipartisan way to solve this country's problems and stop playing political football with the lives of the citizens you were elected to represent.

Dick and Diane Yates  
[REDACTED]

Shoreline WA 98155  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Megan McInnis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Instead of giving a \$20 billion tax break to the medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits offshore on which it pays ZERO taxes, Graham-Cassidy would kick 32 million people off healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans.

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

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

Megan McInnis  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Issaquah, Washington 98027

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Sara Bhakti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

It is a nightmare, the party that used to use the tag line "compassionate conservatism" just won't stop trying to strip away healthcare from millions and raise the cost to be prohibitive for many thousands more.

Don't let this happen! 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.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment - can you hear me scream?

Sara Bhakti  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kirkland, Washington 98033



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barb Ewing <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Comment

The bill currently under consideration is neither an improvement over Obamacare nor an acceptable solution for the health care crisis.

Please stop introducing legislation for the sole purpose of *saying* you did something to repeal Obamacare. Either do it right - and collaboratively with the whole senate – or don't do it at all.

Thank you.  
Barbara Ewing  
Langley, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Cockrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sirs/Madams:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father is 83 and retired. He and my mom have less than \$100K in their bank account to last them the rest of their lives. With aging bodies and impaired health, the brunt of their care is going to fall to my family, which will hinder OUR ability to educate our children. They NEED Medicare. They NEED proper insurance.

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

Sincerely,

Susan Cockrell

Redmond, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Demetria Provas <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please don't repeal the ACA

To whom it may concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have just turned 26 and have a genetic skin condition as well as other health issues. I cannot yet afford private health insurance and have been appreciating the public health care I have now each and every day. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Demetria Provas

Lopez, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jack-Daniyel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record, Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill  
**Attachments:** signature.asc

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy Bill sucks, and should not become law.

The increase in military spending could have brought Medicaid for all who needed it, or college education for all who wanted it.

--  
Jack-Daniyel Strong, Spokane, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Beverly McQuary <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

**Hello**

**I insist that you, my employees, work together to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA,**

**and**

**NOT**

**repeal it.**

**Make it right for the majority of us.**

**I also truly appreciate those few republicans who are holding firm to working this incredibly difficult issue of healthcare from both sides of the aisle, making certain you, and us, have enough time to see what is IN this bill and how it impacts us, the people.**

**I truly do not care if the Trump \*campaign\* promises are met if they are not good for the country as a whole. I DO NOT CARE if the republican agenda/president \*wins\*.**

**Please grow up. Evolve. Do what is RIGHT for the country, the people, and not the selfish corporate bottom line only.**

**Beverly McQuary**

**2642 San Juan St, Coupeville WA 98239**

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Juan Carlos [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

Millions of American families relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our story with pre-existing conditions is that our Aunt Marcy has terminal cancer. She is dying. We are flying today to Colorado Springs to say goodbye to her. If it had not been for ACA and/or medicaid, her various treatments would not have been possible and she would not have lived this long (72).

We do not want others to suffer unnecessarily because of a lack of adequate healthcare. Not in our country- the richest nation the world has ever seen. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Do the RIGHT THING and vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

John Hollyfield

Seattle, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Birgitta Hughes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill

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 that we've been able to bring into remission but we require 5-10 check ups each year. We are doing our part but are concerned about losing coverage or increases in medical costs for our care. My mother lives with us and is a breast cancer survivor on Medicaid. She depends on her affordable healthcare with her fixed income to help her through the aches and pains of aging. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Birgitta Hughes  
Kirkland, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elizabeth Reed [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Committee Graham-Cassidy

I am depressed to see that this option is being considered by the Senate. Not only is it irresponsible to vote on a measure that does not have a full CBO score (just the cost - no evaluation of how many subscribers would lose coverage or be priced out) but it reaffirms that the current government is more interested in stripped Americans of their health plans than they are in seeing that we all have the care we need.

I am a fortunate person, my family has a great health plan through employers. However, in our very normal family of four we have the following pre-existing conditions:

Crohn's disease

successful pregnancy (because if you have given birth to your children this is a reality)

C-section

colitis

depression

autism

We are not an unusual family. We are good people who try to take care of ourselves but sometimes life and genetics happen and we need health care. Also, one of us is an adult woman who has had children and apparently the people who write health care policy really don't like to pay for care for mothers? I am not sure why you think impoverishing families across the country because they dared to have children is good public policy.

Insurance is by its definition the healthy helping pay for the sick. Unless we want a huge gap between the health of our wealthy citizens and our poor citizens that is a necessity. But the trick is, we can all become the sick with every breath we take. The arrogance and heartlessness of pretending that those who need health care have done something to deserve it sickens me. I have Crohn's disease because of genetics. I do a lot of things to mitigate the risk of getting sicker (through diet and exercise) but if I need care it is not my fault. I had children because I wanted to be a mother - punishing my family for becoming a family seems bizarre. My son has autism -- he is four and has always been this way. I don't know what he could have done to deserve the scorn and hatred of his country. He is pretty busy learning to be a person. It is in our country's best interest that he get the therapy and care that he needs. But the way this bill is written - my son will become an adult and not be able to have health insurance. He won't have insurance if he gets cancer or needs his tonsils out or falls off a ladder and breaks his leg. He won't have insurance because we are making sure he gets the therapies he needs now to be that citizen that grows up and votes and pays taxes. For that, this bill wants to take his health insurance.

This is 1/6 of our economy. And this bill treats that 1/6 as a joke. Like a political game. It is not a game for me. It is not a game for my family. And Congress needs to stop treating its citizens as human garbage. We deserve better than this.

There is a political party that truly hates Obamacare. I want to believe they just want to fix it's flaws, that they want to fix healthcare in America. The problem is that this bills fixes no flaws. And it makes the narrative that this party only wants to undo Obamacare more believable. Stop being petty with my insurance. Stop messing with our economy. This is ridiculous.



Thank you,  
Elizabeth Lauer Reed  
Stanwood, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family (both nuclear and extended) relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill potentially negatively impacts the home health care and placement in a memory care facility of my mother in law, who has Alzheimer's and would be dead or homeless without the affordable healthcare (I do not exaggerate, she is 77 and her husband is 81 and when she was still living in her own home she routinely wandered out at night and but for the Grace of God came home in one piece due to the kindness of strangers). This is a woman who worked since the time she was 16, spent time as a single mother and never relied on any state benefits until her disability. I am in danger of not being rehabilitated and receiving the ongoing care I need to return to my 23+ year career as an attorney if insurance companies may deny/delay/increase coverage cost for pre-existing conditions. I also have worked since I was 16, never relied upon any government benefits but in the space of 12 months (at the age of only 44) I had to have a lumbar back fusion, surgery to remove a benign brain tumor (which left me deaf in one ear), and degenerative inflammatory arthritis requires me to have custom made knee braces and soon a full knee replacement for each knee. I have required vision therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. I still need two to four surgeries to regain mobility and function. If I am denied insurance, I will be forced to apply for disability benefits and I will not recover on my own and will be a burden rather than of service to my family and my community. I could go on, but you get the idea.

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

Sincerely,

Jill Pugh

Newcastle, Washington 98059

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Helen Hawkes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

My family relies on quality affordable health care. This bill does not meet those criteria. To repeal the ACA for the sake of repealing it, even though it has become an effective law that people have come to rely on, and especially in light of all the entities that oppose it, is unconscionable. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Helen Hawkes  
Bellingham, Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** A. Cole <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on Graham-Cassidy

My family has always relied on quality, affordable healthcare. Twenty years ago my husband and I took in my 15 year old niece, whose family was unable to provide a stable home for her. She arrived with uncontrolled asthma, no health insurance, and no financial support. I set about trying to find health insurance to cover her medical appointments. Because of her pre-existing condition, I could not get her covered by any insurer, including our family's HMO of many year's standing, at any price. It was only when a life-threatening asthma attack led to an ER visit and subsequent 6 days of hospitalization that we were able to get her on a state-sponsored plan--as an "independent minor"--and she was able to get appropriate care. With consistent, quality medical care, she was able to finish high school, go to college, and eventually marry and establish a stable family. She became a healthy, contributing citizen. We all are grateful for the state program that provided her with health insurance during her medical crisis.

It is heartless and inhumane to deny healthcare to any American, as well as a poor fiscal decision. We must improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anabel Cole  
Seattle, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** J. Calcaterra <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy a bad deal for the American people

Dear Senators:

I am writing to urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill as it would remove many important protections for ordinary Americans. My 21 year old nephew has recently been diagnosed with liver cancer, this bill would make it hard, if not impossible, for him to keep his health insurance. Personally, before I was eligible for Medicare this year, I was able to use the Washington state health exchange to find individual health insurance at an affordable cost.

So many medical and consumer organizations, as well as many governors, have come out against this bill, so why is the Republican party so determined to take away these protections and access to health insurance from our citizens? This is a bad deal and you know it, or would not be trying to rush to past it quickly without real hearings, testimony, or a CBO score.

My desperate hope is that your all will vote your consciences and reject this bill. And for the future, work with Democratic Senators to strengthen and improve the ACA.

Regards,  
Janet Calcaterra

[REDACTED]  
Seattle, WA 98199

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katherine Alice Tylczak [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.

Katherine Alice Tylczak  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Federal Way, Washington 98003

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Flick <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Honorable Senators,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I urge Congress, through bipartisanship, to improve the Affordable Care Act, not to repeal it. My family, like millions of other Americans need and want a health care system that benefits all citizens, irregardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. Health care is a moral issue, not an ideological one. It is time for Congress to act in the best interests of ALL Americans and not just for their particular party of choice.

Sincerely,

Barbara Flick  
Wenatchee, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christina Mastin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

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,  
Christina Mastin  
Seattle, Wa



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandy Altshuler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy repeal bill.

Dear Committee:

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. Please recognize the need to preserve the ACA, while improving its minor faults.

Thank you.

Sandra Altshuler, Ph.D., L.I.C.S.W.  
Drug Court Coordinator, Spokane County  
Mother extraordinaire  
Spokane WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Masters <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Protect our Healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I am writing due to my concern that 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 Masters  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Orcas, Washington 98280

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary Stein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA—please do not repeal.

Greetings.

I'm writing to implore you not to repeal the ACA. For a period of time when I was struggling financially, I personally benefitted from the ACA and was able to receive crucial medical care that I wouldn't have been able to afford otherwise. In the long run, diagnosing and treating my condition in its early stages (rather than avoiding going to the doctor and letting it escalate until I was able to afford insurance) will have saved taxpayers a significant amount of money.

Currently, I am also pregnant with my first baby, and I benefit from quality and comprehensive free prenatal care. I can't imagine how anyone of conscience can support a measure that drops a requirements for insurance providers to include maternity care in their coverage—especially considering Graham and Cassidy's supposedly "pro life" stance.

There needs to be more bipartisan dialogue. Health care to me is a right, not a privilege. Now that I am paying out of pocket for an individual plan, I have an even greater appreciation for the temporary assistance I was able to receive and feel that everyone should have access to affordable health care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary  
Minneapolis, MN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ann and Dave's iMac [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

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

Sincerely, [name]

[town, state]

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions that require medications (that are priced way to high) to live. I could not pay for them without insurance. I like Senator McCain's idea to have a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ann M. West  
Two Harbors, Minnesota

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elaine Green <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:32 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.

Elaine Green  
posterpage@comcast.net  
100 Windward Dr  
Bellingham, Washington 98229

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Shaylon Stolk <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Testimony for GCH Bill

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearings  
Monday 9/25/2017

Shaylon Stolk  
1260 Republican Street  
Apt 325  
Seattle, Washington, 98109

The newest attempt to repeal and replace Obamacare is poorly considered and would be a moral, financial, and health disaster for tens of millions of Americans. I'm one of the 32 million people who could lose their access to the most basic healthcare.

I'm a 28-year-old data scientist who works in the transportation industry, building tools that keep America's 8 million truck drivers safe on the road. I've been a science enthusiast from a young age and am part of a pen pal mentorship program for elementary school students who are interested in science careers. I love my parents, my fiancée, and our big goofy rescue dog.

I'm also one of the millions of Americans with a rare disease. Luckily, it's a condition which is easily controlled with a relatively inexpensive medication. With that medication, I can work, play, and plan for a future with children and grandchildren in it. The only catch is that I have to have regular checkups with my doctor to get my prescription renewed, and to get those appointments, I need insurance.

Even though I am well compensated for my work, the potential insurance premium increases I would experience would exceed my post-tax income. I literally could not afford to buy groceries. And if that same insurance did not cover my medication, I couldn't afford that either. But dropping my insurance would mean I couldn't renew my prescriptions once they ran out, leaving me between a rock and a hard place.

It's appalling to think that I could die an easily preventable death before I'm 30 in one of the wealthiest countries on Earth, because of an ill-considered healthcare bill that is opposed by doctors, insurance companies, and economic experts.

Do not pass this death sentence on millions of American citizens.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lu Uhlig <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham Cassidy ACA Repeal

Please do not repeal the ACA. The proposed Graham Cassidy Act would leave millions of Americans without access to quality health care. It is being rushed through without time for proper analysis. My daughter, will be among those with without affordable care. She is pregnant with her first child and her job does not provide health insurance.

Sincerely,  
Lucy Uhlig  
Renton WA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elin Waldal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern,

My family members and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our stories with pre-existing conditions are as varied as the countless people across the country. To be brought back to a draconian method of insurance qualification is simply unacceptable.

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

Sincerely,

Elin Waldal

Freeland, Washington

Sent from my iPhone



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** 206425 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My comment, Re: G-C bill

Hello,

Thank you for this opportunity to share my comments on the Graham-Cassidy bill. Enclosed you will find a bill from our local hospital. This bill is the second of three to cover our son for an aneurysm and subsequent blood clotting in his right leg.

The first bill, of similar costs came and we paid our share. It was for the onset of his condition and the emergency procedures that took place to stop blood clotting.

The bill that is attached, is for the scheduled aneurysm surgery and subsequent emergency surgery because of a horrific hematoma complication post surgery.

The third bill is yet to come. Our son's stent that was placed at aneurysm site was clotting so yet another emergency surgery took place recently. After clotting meds broke up clotting at the site, surgeon placed a stent *within the stent* already in place.

This condition came out of nowhere. This March, 2017 was his first surgery. He's twenty years old and we are still shocked that he now has this uncommon-for-his-age, *pre-existing condition*.

As you can plainly see, our costs are dramatically high (the word *obscene* comes to mind) and we could only imagine how much higher they would go up if G-C passes. You can also see that we have excellent health coverage. I can only imagine how a similar scenario that plays out over-and-over throughout this country could do to families and their livelihoods if they were without decent coverage.

I implore you, should the Graham-Cassidy bill be given a vote, **PLEASE VOTE NO**.

Aside from the overwhelming evidence and push back (citizens & healthcare/insurance establishments) directed at this awful bill, an additional reason for voting No has to do with regular order. The Senate (especially its Leader) knows very well that to even consider bringing such a bill to the floor is unconscionable.

I ask for Congress to return to regular order and "**Fix the ACA**".

Thank you again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,  
Christina Grachek  
Maple Valley, WA

Attachment

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Erin Fitzgerald [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. My two adult daughters and adult son all have their insurance through the ACA program. My youngest daughter has a pre-existing condition that would not be covered under the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I am begging you to create a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, so that more Americans will have access to to health insurance. Do not repeal ACA, please improve it.

Sincerely,

Erin Fitzgerald  
Spokane, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My partner and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was recently without healthcare until my place of work provided health insurance prompted by the passing of the ACA. While it's clear the ACA isn't perfect, this bill is not the answer. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sarah Harlett

Seattle, WA

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ilsa <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

There are many economically-beneficial, creative steps we as a country can take to allow everyone to live healthier lives. Stripping people of quality, affordable health insurance is not one of them.

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

Sincerely,

Ilsa Olsen  
Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kate Pluth <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I absolutely oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Because of the ACA, I was able to stay on my parent's health insurance while doing contract work out of college in my early twenties until I had an employer who covered me. I also rely on the ACA to this day to make sure I have access to birth control so I can start a family when it's right for me. Aside from the big things the ACA does to help those who are disadvantaged, I know it also ends up going the extra mile to keep people stable if they're already in an okay position. For me and for those who need so much more help than me, like people with pre-existing conditions, the elderly, and the poor, the ACA must stay and be made stronger.

Thank you,

Kate Pluth  
Seattle, WA 98144

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for America

Dear Finance Committee members,

I understand you are having a hearing on Monday to discuss the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please debate this in good conscience, not as a partisan effort. This bill would have devastating consequences for so many Americans. My primary concerns, though I have many, are around pre-existing conditions. No matter who we are - man, woman, Republican, Democrat, child, adult - we are all one diagnosis or one accident away from having a pre-existing condition. I'm healthy, but this still terrifies me. I can only imagine how people who are currently battling illnesses must feel, with the prospect of not being able to afford health insurance. The ACA might not be perfect, but let's focus on making it better, not repealing it. Please.

Sincerely,  
Teresa Monaghan  
Seattle WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordability unfolded last year as both my wife and I required surgery for orthopedic issues. These surgeries obviously involved hospital stays and lengthy physical therapy afterward, and all of this would not have been doable without the support provided by the Affordable Care Act. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Repealing this act is simply unconscionable.

Sincerely,

Betsy Howell

Port Townsend, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sandra Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:04 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.

Sandra Smith  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Seattle, Washington 98122



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jacquelyn Jacobs <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My Family Relies on ACA Do NOT Repeal it

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

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

I have a sister with major disabilities from rapidly progressing multiple scoliosis and who is currently confined to bed in a group nursing facility in Klamath Falls, Oregon. She needs skilled nursing care 24/7 which something our family can NOT provide. Without Medicaid, provisions to prevent discrimination from pre-existing conditions or disabilities my sister would have died several years ago. Up until my sister was severely disabled she was a working, tax paying citizen. Why does her life deserve less health care resources than anyone else?

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The America being proposed by this legislation is cruel and will cause needless suffering all to benefit a small minority of wealthy Americans with a tax cut. These wealthy Americans will not miss any meals or health care if no tax cut but the impact on millions of other Americans will be profound.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn L. Jacobs

Olympia, WA 98506

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kate Krause <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repealing ACA

I am a retired RN who worked in the healthcare field for 42 years, and I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy bill to repeal the ACA. Millions of Americans depend on the ACA to receive the healthcare they require, and would be left in dire straits and many in life-threatening situations without it. There should be a bipartisan plan to improve the ACA and to continue to improve healthcare delivery in our wealthy country.

Sincerely,  
Kate Krause  
Oak Harbor, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dorothy Gist <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not repeal ACA

My grandchildren depend on healthcare through the ACA. My grandson has a seizure disorder and needs regular monitoring of his health. My niece has mental health issues and with ACA would probably be living on the street!

Please, we need Medicare for all and nothing less! I love Medicare through Kaiser Permanente and which everyone could have it.

Dorothy Gist  
1720 Hays Ave NW  
OLYMPIA, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ronna <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** KILL THE BILL

I am 75 years old and have a chronic blood condition that requires monthly lab tests and a procedure. Without this care I would die. I need the help offered by my Medicare and supplemental insurance to pay for this care as I am on a fixed income. Please do not pass this horrendous bill that will harm so many citizens. How can you even think like this. Please realize that while you believe it was a campaign pledge most people are over that and realize it was not a good campaign pledge as they begin to see you have nothing better to offer.

Ronna Loerch  
116 Aspen Drive  
Everson, WA 98247

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Erin Berendes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son and I both have pre-existing conditions and would be incredibly vulnerable without those protections. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Erin Berendes

Snohomish, WA 98296

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Kessler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

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

My husband has had 3 hip surgeries to treat debilitating arthritis. Before the ACA, he was turned down for surgery because of his pre-existing condition. We're grateful he's had affordable health insurance that covered his surgeries - now he can continue to work and enjoy life.

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

Sincerely,  
Robin Kessler  
Seattle, WA 98117

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ellin Snow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that my daughter, then 53, who had always worked steadily, moved from Mississippi to the Seattle area in 2013 with her teenage son. It took her two full years to get a full time job, and thank goodness for Medicaid, which, in the meantime, allowed her to be covered for health insurance! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Ellin Snow,  
Lynnwood, WA 98087

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marjie Bell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a taxpayer and patriot who has been working since my first job picking berries at age 10. While I have a Master's Degree and a professional job, basic health insurance takes a large bite out of my family budget. Going without health insurance would mean that in the event of a serious illness or accident we would risk losing everything we've worked for. I believe that ALL Americans deserve affordable health care and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Marjorie Bell

Deming, Washington



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jennifer Porter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

To whom it may concern-

My family, my friends, my PATIENTS, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was born with a congenital defect, both a cleft palate and lip -- a pre-existing condition marked from literally minute one! I am truly grateful for the care I have received over my lifetime, and can NOT fathom not getting the care I needed to function if that label limited my parents from getting me the coverage I needed. Unfortunately, many have had to struggle with this over the years, especially those without as many financial means or access. The Affordable Care Act has provided countless people to have a sound mind of being able to access the care they need and not be judged and priced out of coverage.

Being a patient myself, for all of my childhood, and into my early adulthood, led me into Medicine, driven by a passion to make a difference in healthcare, in patients' lives. This has required deep sacrifice and countless hours in study, work, and stress, many times in the wee hours of the night/morning. Now, as a board certified Ob/Gyn physician and fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, I am specifically passionate towards supporting women's and maternal-fetal healthcare. I see first hand the role healthcare access has in patients' lives, and see the multi-factorial roadblocks which hinder optimal care for women and children. Maternity care and reproductive healthcare are of paramount importance because women are the healthcare decision makers of their family. We must care for our vulnerable, our marginalized, and healthcare should not be a partisan issue because this is the right thing to do! Please support a bipartisan, collaborative bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

We should be asking how can we improve healthcare in quality and numbers, and build upon the strengths of the ACA, while meaningfully seeking to fix the weaker parts of the ACA. Our people need you to stand in leadership, in conviction and vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,

Jennifer K Porter, MD, FACOG

Bothell, Washington

University of Washington School of Medicine alumnus, 2000

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ChrisnPhilippa Sonnichsen <3cougsand1duck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill


My husband and I retired early, and we have relied on Obamacare since its inception. It is in the best interests of all citizens to maintain affordable healthcare for all. I am in favor of congress working on a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA. I am not in favor of the Graham-Cassidy bill, and I am not in favor of any of the other bills put forth by the GOP because each would have left 20 million or more Americans without healthcare coverage. Additionally, it is imperative to cover preexisting conditions and not have a different insurance pool for those with pre-existing conditions. I am also in favor of covering prenatal expenses, birth control, vasectomies, vaccinations and other preventative care, mental health services, and the other services covered by the ACA.

I realize that providing affordable health insurance is costly, but to me, the most effective way to decrease the cost of health care in the US is to educate Americans about how lifestyle choices affect one's health. It is counter-productive to have the USDA responsible for both promoting a healthy diet and for promoting food sales. Often, taxpayer money is spent to sell foods that promote disease, like butter and cheese which are extremely high in saturated fat and salt; and sodas, which are devoid of nutrients except calories from sugar. If we concentrate on promoting healthy foods alone, we can reduce the cost of health care in the US.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Kind regards,

  
Richland, WA 99352

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Williams <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

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 Williams

Seattle, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Pamela Hastings <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Health Care

**I and my neighbors** rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with disabilities is: as an Occupational Therapist I saw a number of patients in town who had to choose which medication to purchase or whether to get treatment for a chronic disability, like an arthritic knee versus a heart problem. My self-employed massage therapist, who is 64, cannot afford insurance and can't afford to go without it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

In a country as rich as the USA, each citizen should be guaranteed basic health care.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hastings

Port Angeles, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** cheryl diamond <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:02 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.

cheryl diamond  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

federal way, Washington 98023

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anlya Folsom <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy Graham

My family and I relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is short. I was struggling with extreme mental health concerns but because I didnt havr insurancr I didn't seek help. When I enrolled in Applr Health i learned I could get the help I so desperately needed. Having insurance prevented what would have ultimately ended for me in suicide. My sister has a similar story she suffered a mental break down which resulted in her stabbing herself in the chest twice. At the hospital we learned she didnt have insurance. A quick thinking employee registered her for Apple Health so that they could perform the life saving surgery she needed. Both of us would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anlya & Abby Folsom

Bellingham, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** jacqueline maxwell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:00 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.

jacqueline maxwell  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Vancouver, Washington 98682

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Vicki Zarrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

My family, including my 92-year-old mother with pre-existing conditions, 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,  
Vicki Zarrell  
Olympia, WA



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Linda [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

Our family, and all families, need quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My husband and I are retirees with limited income flexibility. While we are mostly healthy now, a household accident resulting in hospitalization and surgery showed us how quickly health care needs can change. We have two sons, one still in school and the other just starting his career. Neither have employer provided insurance, though both of them are employed. They need an affordable option for low income workers.

I agree with Sen. McCain that a successful health care plan must be the result of bipartisan talks, due process and input via hearings. I supported the bipartisan talks to stabilize the insurance markets and improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please drop the Graham Cassidy bill and return to this bipartisan effort. Don't reduce government spending by jeopardizing human lives.

Sincerely,  
Linda Berg  
Bellingham, WA

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Greta Movassaghi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My family has greatly benefited from the ACA. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My disabled brother relies on Medicaid in particular Long-term care. He is unable to care for himself or live independently. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Greta Movassaghi

Concrete WA

Greta M

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jane <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I'm looking for a biPartisan solution to the ACA. There's no need to reinvent the wheel. I believe all Americans (as well as all Canadians, all British, all French etc.) have a right to health care. Please begin to realize that the ACA, while not perfect, is a great beginning point.

Jane Hill  
Twisp, WA. 98856

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Megan Imrie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. With a disability (MS) and therefore a pre-existing condition, I rely on affordable health care!

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

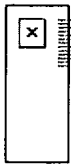
Sincerely,

Megan Imrie

Des Moines, WA]

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 Megan Imrie | 206-948-9033 | [megan@windsongtrio.com](mailto:megan@windsongtrio.com) | [windsongtrio.com](http://windsongtrio.com)

 Voted Best Ceremony Music 2006-2017 by Seattle Bride Magazine

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Why I oppose the G-C bill -- my family's story.

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

My daughter was diagnosed with a chronic condition requiring life long medication, shortly after a divorce that left her as single parent with minimum wage, part-time work. She has no employer-sponsored health insurance. Soon after, one of her children was diagnosed with life threatening allergies, which required purchasing multiple, expensive Epi-pens, which have to be replaced on a regular basis due to their expirations. Without the Washington State insurance that she can get under "Obamacare" Medicaid funding, she would not be able to afford the doctors visits, tests, or medications that she and her child need. Shall we let children die because their parents cannot afford the medication they need?

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I applaud John McCain for speaking out about the need for Democrats and Republicans to work together to find a better solution.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Woodruff  
Renton, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Spatz, Gregory <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal the ACA

To Whom it May Concern:

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

Please return to regular order and find a bi-partisan path forward to better healthcare for ALL Americans. A healthcare bill which strips healthcare from millions and millions of Americans is not politically expedient, humane or Christian. Please find a workable real solution.

Prof. Gregory Spatz, Program Director

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharon Muza <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote NO on Graham Cassidy Bill

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have preexisting conditions and am self employed, I buy my insurance on the open market. My daughter had open heart surgery 7 years ago and needs constant follow up care. We rely on our health insurance to keep us alive. For real! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Muza  
Seattle WA

Sharon Muza  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alex Falcon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

I am writing to address problems with the Graham Cassidy Bill. I have chronic leukemia (CLL). I am 62 years old. When my employer retired in 2007 and I lost my job and health insurance I looked into the WA State High Risk pool. The premiums for a 52 year old woman were \$1200 a MONTH! That was 10 years ago!! I was fortunate to find a part time job that offered health insurance benefits that I could purchase so my pre-existing condition didn't preclude affordable health insurance. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act I was able to retire at the age of 60 to take care of my spouse who is permanently disabled from a spinal cord injury. We did not qualify for subsidies at the time and purchased my insurance through the WA State exchange.

I know of several college students who benefit from the expanded Medicaid in my state.

The Affordable Care Act contains out of pocket caps that are very important to prevent bankruptcy for people who contract catastrophic illness. Before the ACA a diagnosis of cancer could cause a family to lose their home.

The patient protections and pre-existing condition coverage in Graham Cassidy Bill are not sufficient. The states can get waivers, or they could run out of money. It's wrong to send block grants to states based on politics rather than per capita.

It is shameful that the Senate would be so intent on passing something just to say they passed something rather than focusing on the effects it will have on the American citizens. You were elected to represent the people, not your wealthy corporate donors. You should be focused on fixing the ACA.

Thank you for your consideration. I voice my opposition to this bill.

Alexandria Falcon  
Walla Walla WA 99362



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maddie Cheek <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:54 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. Both of my parents have relied on their coverage under the Affordable Care Act in the last few years to get help for various health issues. These include essential health benefits for mental health coverage and substance abuse coverage. Access to treatment and care has benefitted my family greatly and we are all very thankful for it as coverage would have been out of reach financially without it. Because of my own family's experience with this, and the experiences of many of my friends and fellow Americans, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope you consider the potential impact of a repeal effort like this one on the American people first and foremost.

Sincerely,  
Madison Cheek

Seattle, WA 98119

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** kelly bjork <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** HEALTHCARE

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that frankly I would not be able to go to the doctor if I did not have affordable healthcare.

Also, my partner of 8-years had some serious mental health problems last winter that left me being his caregiver for 4 months. He was unable to work during that period and depended solely on my income; and as both of us are working artists, income can be a huge question mark which was a huge stressor. I was so thankful that his emergency room visit, hospital stay and continuing doctor, psychiatrist, and therapy appointments were all covered by our affordable health care. If we hadn't had the Affordable Care Act during that time, I'm not sure if I would have been able to maintain a healthy mind myself.

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

Sincerely,  
Kelly Bjork  
Seattle, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Roberta <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save ACA and my healthcare

**My entire** family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our story includes pre-existing conditions, care for my aged mother, and the need for affordable care. As a young woman I depended on Planned Parenthood for many healthcare needs and I want that service to be available to my granddaughters.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve or remedy the ACA, not gut it. Please don't leave millions of Americans struggling to find adequate and affordable healthcare. I ask you all to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Respectfully,  
Roberta Greenwood  
Bellevue, WA 98004

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Rink [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Our current healthcare premiums are over \$1200 a month for a family of four and then we have a high deductible so we end up paying for all healthcare ourselves. We cannot face continual premium increases. While we can pay for doctors appointments ourselves, we need insurance for the big hits - cancer, accidents, hospitalization. There needs to be an insurance plan offered that meets those needs.

My husband and I both have pre-existing conditions. We oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it will not cover pre-existing conditions and does nothing to keep insurance affordable and practical.

There needs to be a bipartisan Congressional effort in improve the current healthcare system, not repeal.

ACA is the foundation of better healthcare in this country: build on it.

Thank you,  
Laura Rink  
Bellingham, Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** John BATSON <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

It is obvious the lawmakers and the President who are voting yes on the bill have no idea of, or chose to ignore, the devastating effects resulting from the bill. They just do not care about millions and millions of our citizens who will be affected. If those millions live, they certainly will look at another political party to find replacements for those who voted yes. That is the only one certain positive result.

John BATSON  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Vancouver, Washington 98682

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandy Lynch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Sandy Lynch  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Bremerton, Washington 98311

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathy G <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy bill. Save ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family has pre-existing conditions that we were born with and it is unfair to penalize Americans with pre-existing conditions and make healthcare unaffordable. By having the ACA and affordable healthcare, we have been able to work, go to school and contribute to our community, city and country. I want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do not pass this bill!!!!

Sincerely,  
Kathryn Gwilym  
Seattle, Washington

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Valerie L. <v[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony for 9/25 Graham-Cassidy hearing

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,  
Valerie Lonneman  
Seattle, WA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Cangie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a self-employed small business owner, I rely on the ACA for health insurance. Because my state (Washington) chose to expand Medicaid coverage, we stand to lose billions if this bill becomes law. I had childhood eczema and teenage acne, both of which are considered pre-existing conditions by insurers, and I would likely be denied coverage on the individual market or find it unaffordable if the protections and budget from the ACA were rescinded. My story is not unique. For these reasons and on behalf of the tens of millions of Americans who would be much worse off under Graham-Cassidy, I vehemently oppose this bill.

Thank you,  
Robin Cangie  
Vancouver, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tiffany Burnette <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do Not Repeal ACA

Hello,

Myself and my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have two pre-existing conditions, one genetic and one due to childhood trauma. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Tiffany

Vancouver, Wa 98665

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Dorothy Martin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill!!!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Each person in my family has a pre-existing condition of one sort or another and it's very important to us that our healthcare not only be affordable but also include coverage for pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Dorothy J Martin

Bellevue, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jenell McGee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** RE: NO to Graham/Cassidy BILL

**To Whom It May Concern:**

**I am a retired teacher who worked for 42 years teaching because of my need for health insurance as a Type 1 diabetic. I am extremely concerned with the Graham Cassidy health bill.**

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. When I am in the "donut hole" which is nearly half a year, I pay over \$400 monthly for insurance and an additional \$80 per vial for my insulin adding an additional \$240 month.

Congress should be working on affordable health care for us including tacking the cost of drugs which is ridiculous. **I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Sincerely, Jenell McGee  
Ellensburg, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David Bowman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Good afternoon. I'm writing to urge the immediate defeat of this proposed legislation. Health care is a right, not a privilege for the few who can afford it. Do not endanger the lives of tens of millions of Americans for the purpose of cutting taxes for the rich. It is a Faustian bargain. We will all remember who casts Yes votes for this abomination.

Best regards,  
David Bowman  
Redmond, WA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** John Jacobson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Question for Hearing

How would this bill impact the mortality rate for Americans once it is fully implemented? Which groups/demographics would experience the highest rise in fatalities?

Sincerely,  
John Jacobson  
Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lynn Bamberger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:03 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.

Lynn Bamberger  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Everett, Washington 98204

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Brenda McVay [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments Healthscare

**Committee:**

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Health plan. This plan radically redistributes Medicaid dollars away from states that thoughtfully enrolled in programs and gives it to states that took zero action with regard to Medicaid program offering for constituents.

This plan will have a disastrous effect on Women's healthcare coverage, as it specifies leaving gaps in reproductive care options. Through these specified coverage gaps the bill threatens insurance markets of many states that mandate constituents right to healthcare decisions, CA & NY in particular.

Healthcare impacts the economy enormously so senate must proceed with regular order: input from ALL committee members and send bill to floor for debate/amendments (credit senator McCain). CBO needs to submit budgetary and economic impacts of this specific legislation.

Going forward any bills regarding healthcare MUST address covering individuals with pre-existing conditions, this bill undermines the current protections ACA provides so is a giant step backwards to addressing the issue. This bill does nothing to address insurance market stabilization, it in fact increases market instability.

Please vote NO to Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you,  
Brenda McVay  
State of Washington



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Missy D. <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose GCH

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would have killed my father while he was trying to recover from cancer, and it would be detrimental to my husbands current health as he tries to recover from his life-changing surgery. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Missy Dominguez

Seattle, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laurie Sundstrom <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

\*

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

Without the ACA, I would have no insurance. I'm a single person who works as a nanny. My employer doesn't offer insurance. Before the ACA, no insurance company was interested in offering me coverage. Now, I have a good insurance plan and can see my doctor when I need to, as well as get a yearly mammogram -- which I couldn't afford to do prior to the ACA.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please stop trying to ram through a cruel, heartless bill that the majority of Americans don't want. We like our ACA coverage. Fix the problems, don't kill the program!

Also, I'm furious at this administration's attempts to sabotage the ACA. Get it together and do the right thing for us!

Sincerely,  
Laurie Sundstrom  
Spokane, Washington

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jessica Tupper <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

To the members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare to succeed at my work and goals. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

My latest story of dealing with health issues is simple: recently, I started showing strange numbness in my face, and the neurologist requested an MRI to confirm it wasn't Multiple Sclerosis. That MRI would have been \$1181 out of pocket, but was instead \$180 due to insurance. Without insurance, we could not afford to work or build our lives, or improve our communities. We'd simply be drowning in debt.

Please work towards a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA instead of repealing it. Health care is a critical foundation that helps make cities communities, and that's something we can all agree on.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Tupper  
Seattle, Washington

--  
Jess Tupper, MPA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jane Trancho <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to Graham Cassidy

Please add me to the list of Americans opposing this horrific bill. Please remember that you represent citizens and not corporations; citizens that need a healthcare system that will not bankrupt people or allow them to die for lack of care.

Jane Trancho  
Bainbridge Island, Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Maggie Callery <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Testimony on GCH

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Maggie Callery and I am an Early Intervention Specialist in the state of Washington providing home visits to children birth to three with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

I see the effects both of children and families with and without access to health care daily. Due to my professional experience with Medicaid I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

As parents are navigating their child's delay or disability having quality affordable health insurance means that they are able to meet their child's needs early in order to prevent further issues and therefore helping to raise future adults who will be able to contribute to society. Affordable health care is essential to our nation's future. When parents and young children get access to health care services that they need we all benefit!

The majority of the families I serve use Medicaid and many of the recipients of Medicaid are children living in poverty. Decades of research has shown the impacts of stress and poverty on both mental and physical health. When children don't have access to the services they need those effects worsen and end up costing society in the long run. Please think long term and look for a bipartisan solution to improve the AAC instead of taking health care away from millions of citizens.

Sincerely,  
Maggie Callery  
Concerned Early Intervention Specialist

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Lisa halpern [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Lisa halpern  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Seattle , Washington 98118

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jane Brantley [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

To whom it may concern,  
The Cassidy-Graham plan will truly HARM millions of men, women and children in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Please OPPOSE this I'll- advised bill. You were sent to Washington to govern and watch out for the COMMON GOOD. This bill will NOT HELP PEOPLE! Defeat it!  
Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rosemary Lowden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family along with so many others in this country rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I think that every person is entitled to this so I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter, who now lives in Maryland, was diagnosed with Chronic pain when she was 18 years old. If the requirement to cover prest-existing conditions is removed, she will be considered uninsurable and this will have a huge impact on her life and her well-being. She will be visiting emergency rooms more often where she is required to be treated, and this is not only much less satisfactory for her, it costs the taxpayers much more in the long run. My son, who lives in North Carolina, does not have health insurance through his employer either and without the existing coverage he is able to obtain through the exchanges created by the ACA, he cannot afford private insurance.

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

Sincerely,

Rosemary A Lowden

Sonhomish, WA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Calli VanderWilde [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve the ACA

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition (a kidney disease). I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Calli VanderWilde

Spokane, WA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

PATTE Strang

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Mountlake Terrace, Washington 98043-5745

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Pamela Woods <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Pamela Woods  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Federal Way, Washington 98023

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karri Mickelson [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** RE: Graham-Cassidy Bill

Statement for Graham-Cassidy Hearing  
Karri Mickelson  
[REDACTED]  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly encourage you not to support the legislation sponsored by Senators Graham and Cassidy to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. I don't feel that this bill acts in the best interest of the American people.

Most states stand to lose federal funding if Graham-Cassidy passes. Additionally, one of the areas where funding will be most impacted is Medicaid, and the folks who stand to lose the most are low income children and adults. The Affordable Care Act provided a Medicaid expansion that allowed states to expand their health coverage to include people living within 138% of the poverty line. The current federal poverty level for a family of 4 is \$24,600. 138% of this income is \$33,948. There is no set of circumstances that would allow a family of four at that income level to attain not only the basic necessities of food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and education, but also health care on top of that if they were required to pay a monthly premium out of pocket. So, these people will go uninsured, and when they do get sick, or get in an accident, or have children, what will happen?

We have a moral responsibility as citizens and taxpayers to take care of those who are unable to take care of themselves, or who have additional needs. Folks with pre-existing conditions or disabilities, children, the elderly, the working-class...they are people too, and they deserve health care. We are the only nation in the world to be classified as a first world nation and not provide our citizens with guaranteed access to health care. If we are to be the best that we can be, and to improve in science, in technology, in education, in diplomacy, we cannot have socioeconomic issues preventing our citizens from being able to lead in the efforts to make our nation and our world a better place.

This bill does nothing to expand health coverage or to make health coverage more affordable for people within any socioeconomic class in the United States. As Senators, you have the responsibility to act in the best interest of your constituents. The nation is more attentive and well informed of the stakes of this than perhaps ever before.

Best regards,  
Karri Mickelson

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I oppose the repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act via the Graham-Cassidy bill.

The ACA has problems and needs fixing, which was being addressed by Senators Murray & Alexander, prior to this desperate effort by Graham-Cassidy. Let's get back to that bi-partisan effort as Senator McCain has asked, to create a program that keeps people getting healthcare at a reasonable price rather than kicking them off by going to state block grants that will never be great enough to meet the need.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Marsha J. Williams

[REDACTED]  
Gig Harbor, WA 98329

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

Another bad idea that does nothing to improve health care or access to it, just tax breaks to a greedy group that does not need them.

Howard Rubenstein

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ridgefield, Washington 98642

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Kathryn Zahl [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators of the Finance Committee:

Please put country before party and just REPAIR the Affordable Care Act. After 10 months of calling, emailing, marching and protesting to save the ACA, Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security, the majority of Americans are exhausted from the Republican attempts to sabotage the safety nets for our most vulnerable. Were you actually unmoved by the disabled protestors being dragged out of their wheelchairs by Capitol Police?

As a human resources director, I have administered health plans for more than two decades. The ACA is a good plan if you had not allowed Senator Rubio to decimate the risk corridors for the insurance companies. Speaking of which, your time would be better spent looking into the high costs of prescription drugs and gouging on the part of insurers.

Please stop trying to eradicate everything that President Obama accomplished and think about your constituents. The case for single payer is getting stronger and stronger every day. Please allow Senators Alexander and Murray to continue their discussions to fix the ACA and value policy over politics.

Sincerely,  
Kathryn Zahl  
College Place, WA

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Vicki Martin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
Hearing Date: September 25, 2017  
Victoria A Martin

[REDACTED]  
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Thank you for the opportunity to add my voice and opposition to this proposed bill. I am certain there will be comments provided with many mathematical calculations, but I will leave that for those experts. I oppose this bill because of its complete lack of humanity and its apparent desire to completely remove healthcare for women. This current administration and congress demonstrate, on almost a daily basis, the desire to destroy rather than build up. I, as a private citizen, am both terribly sadden and enraged.

Please add my one voice to this list of people much wiser than I in the medical community that say the cost is too dear for this bill to be considered in any way, shape or form as it currently stands.

- [ALS Association](#)
- [Alzheimer's Association](#)
- [Alzheimer's Impact Movement](#)
- [American Cancer Society](#)
- [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](#)
- [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](#)
- [Women Heart](#)

I am grateful to live in a state where my representation stands shoulder to shoulder **against** this hurtful and greedy piece of legislation. A huge thank you to Senators Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell and Representative Derek Kilmer.

Thank you,  
Victoria A Martin

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Marc Harrison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

And where are the hearings on this bill? Why haven't Democrats had a chance to work with Republicans on this bill?

This is why people think Congress (read Republicans) doesn't work any more.

Marc Harrison

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Olympia, Washington 98501

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** palmer Koon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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palmer Koon  
[REDACTED]

TACOMA, Washington 98465

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I do not agree with the bill's healthcare funding cuts, repeal of individual mandate and lack of guaranteed protection for those with pre-existing conditions. Additionally, as a systems developer I consider the proposed schedule for implementation of state healthcare systems to be unrealistic. In my opinion this attempt to pass such a significant piece of legislation with little review and evaluation of its effects is irresponsible and a dereliction of duty to the American people. I'm asking all Senators to join John McCain in rejecting this bill and to support of Lamar Alexander, Patty Murray and the HELP committee in their bipartisan work to stabilize ACA. It's the right way to move forward.

Chris O'Niell

98394  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Bob Gillespie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Bob Gillespie

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wenatchee , Washington 98801

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** russel brooks <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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russel brooks

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
walla walla, Washington 99362

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alyson Giardini [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop this now!

This power grab legislating behind closed doors with no public testimony, where age old congressional rules ensuring checks and balances are undone, is decimating the structure of this country.

As we speak, we are waiting for scan results to find out if my spouse's cancer has returned. Improve the ACA. A lot of it is working. To repeal it just to repeal it is petty, mean, greedy and unchristian in a million ways.

Real people rely on the ACA. Please STOP putting the country through this!

Alyson Giardini LMFT  
[REDACTED]

To make or change an appointment or communicate through a HIPAA secure connection, you may go to [REDACTED]

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** *This e-mail transmission, and any documents or messages attached to it, may contain confidential information that is legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering this e-mail to the intended recipient, then you are (1) notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, saving, reading or use of this information is strictly prohibited, (2) requested to discard and delete this e-mail and any attachments, and (3) requested to immediately notify us by e-mail that you mistakenly received this message.* [REDACTED] Thanks.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Valerie Luna Serrels <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Anti-Health Bill

Thank you for taking comments from the public on this horrible bill. This is my statement of resistance against this bill passing the Senate. I am a recipient of the Affordable Care Act - my first time having insurance in over 10 years since my husband has been on disability and we lost our insurance from his job. Myself and two of my young adult sons receive government subsidies to make our current insurance affordable. We have had two years of excellent health coverage and I'm sick to think we could so easily see it slip away with a few votes from Senate members who have NO IDEA what it's like to be an ordinary American on a meager budget.

We need this health coverage, and we need the protections it offers against denying pre-existing conditions, and subsidized benefits from the federal government. I've had multiple important tests this year that I would not have been able to access had I not had insurance, as have my sons.

Please, please, please do not allow this bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

Thank you.  
Valerie Serrels  
Bridgewater, Virginia

--

Valerie Luna Serrels, M.A.  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

“What I know of the divine science  
and holy scripture,  
I learnt in the woods and fields.”  
— Bernard of Clairvaux



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of arielle eckstut <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

My family will be greatly affected by this bill. We live in NJ, a state who will lose massive amounts of money. We all have pre-existing conditions. And we are self-employed. We are just financially stable. This bill will put us into debt, along with millions of other Americans. Voting for this bill is voting against Americans. Pls kill the bill.

Thank you,  
Arielle

--  
Arielle Eckstut  
[REDACTED]

Interested in co-or? Check out my new book:  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Mike Vladimer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please stop the graham Cassidy bill

It's clear that this bill will take healthcare away from millions of Americans -- and you don't fully know it's impacts because there's no cbo score yet. Please stop this bill.

Thanks  
Mike Vladimer  
San Francisco, California

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carrie Jensen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on the new "bill"

First off, **STOP TRYING TO PUSH THESE BILLES THROUGH WITHOUT THE CBO SCORE.** Slow down and do it right.

I in no way trust the states to make the right decisions when it comes to how to manage their constituents' health care coverage, and passing this bill will lead to tax payers paying the medical bills of the uninsured for years and years to come. It will lead to early death, bankruptcy and a much greater divide between the rich and poor.

It will cause the insurance market to tank by removing the stabilizer of the young and healthy.

If we get rid of all funding for Planned Parenthood, get ready for a huge increase in the need for the Medicaid you just took away, because I highly doubt women will just get in line at their community health centers. They will not get on birth control and they will have babies. It will be unplanned parenthood. Do the politicians understand that's what PP stands for?

Why does the GOP insist on targeting the weakest, neediest, sickest members of our society? I find it repugnant, unethical and shameful.

Carrie Jensen  
[REDACTED]  
Oak Park, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elwell, Laury [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Please stop this bill. We need to protect the citizens of this country and their healthcare. This bill does not accomplish this, I pray that you all can do better than this. Although, after all of the time that has been wasted, it is hard to believe anyone has an answer. Despite the lack of a better bill, THIS bill is not the one. VOTE NO ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY

Laury Elwell  
Admin Assistant  
Rehabilitation Engineering Program  
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

\*\*\*\*\*

Electronic Mail is not secure, may not be read every day, and should not be used for urgent or sensitive issues

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to Graham-Cassidy

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy proposal because it will take away healthcare from millions and people will die.

Elizabeth Jones

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]om  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I'm writing to urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal plan. Any healthcare plan that eliminates Medicaid expansion, protections for those with pre-existing conditions, and hasn't been scored by the CBO is unacceptable.

I'm also concerned about the loss of jobs in healthcare predicted with the repeal of the ACA. As a healthcare professional this is something very personal to me. The American people want a bipartisan approach to repairing the ACA, not a repeal of it.

Sent from Natalie Embry-Cardwell's iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Brenda K. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please, please vote against this unconscionable bill. It does nothing that its creators claim it does, and, to the contrary, will end up bankrupting, injuring, and killing people.

I'm the mother of twins, born at 29 weeks by emergency C-Section. One twin weighed 3.1lbs, the other 1.5lbs. They were kept in the NICU for two months. They are million dollar babies. I was lucky that my husband had a great job, with great benefits, including insurance. I weep to think of anyone that might not have the coverage we had. What would happen to such parents and their babies? Graham-Cassidy would not insure that all parents in such circumstances would have as wonderful an outcome as our family has had.

Again, I plead with you to vote against this bill. People will die, families will be destroyed.

Truly,  
Brenda Kenworthy  
Mom to Ari & Kai

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tauberandy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care bill

I'm writing to urge you to NOT support or pass the current Health Care bill. As an aging citizen I rely on affordable care. With pre existing conditions, I cannot afford to 'move' if my state opts out of this current requirement or raises rates on those of us with conditions beyond our control.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Tauber  
[REDACTED]  
Madison, WI 53704

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michele Burnie [REDACTED]m>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

My husband has a rare blood disorder- PNH- diagnosed 2 yrs ago. The only medication available is \$100,000 a year - I'm not joking.

The Graham Cassidy bill will put him into a category of high risk and insurance companies will price us out of coverage. If this bill passes, we will not be able to afford his quarterly tests, future biopsies or the medication. Would you do this to your spouse? Your father? Your son?

Please listen to the American people and not GOP donors like the Koch brothers. This bill will literally kill Americans.  
Michele Burnie

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Ellison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Time to do your jobs and stop pushing through anything just to kill Obama care. Respect the office to which you were elected for all citizens. Vote NO!

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tina Fitanides [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** opposition of Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom it may concern -

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to the "Graham-Cassidy bill" which would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. This bill would devastate many vulnerable populations and their ability to afford and receive medical coverage. It would also place millions of American's with pre-existing conditions, such as myself and my son, at risk of not being able to obtain or afford health insurance leading to fatal and completely avoidable consequences.

This bill will be absolutely devastating to many vulnerable populations, including children and adults with disabilities (of which we have both in my immediate family). The reality is that many states will be drastically impacted. This bill is a blatant and egregious attempt to take away health care from people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations.

I fully understand that the ACA is not perfect and needs to be fixed in order to help those Americans who have been financially effected. However, to put politics and insurance company profits over people is heartless. I am disgusted and ashamed of the fact that the Congress of the United States of America is even considering such cruel legislation knowing full well that millions of people will suffer unnecessary harm and financial, emotional and physical pain.

Please do not further this legislation. I, and millions of Americans. are counting on you and others in Congress to do the job you were elected to do and fix the issues in front of you, not just create new ones or pass the buck. You are better than that!

Sincerely,

Tina Fitanides  
Ashland, MA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Helene Matesky [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I am a former Senate Republican Staffer from the time when the GOP were known to approach social issues in a fiscally responsible manner. No one advocated taking benefits away, leaving people unprotected. HOW LOW YOU HAVE ALL GONE NOW.

You had 8 years to work for better healthcare, but instead you wasted our tax dollars trying to bring Obama down. You could have spent that time thinking about cost effective ways to bring healthcare to all. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A WIN.

I worked as a Compliance Officer for a major insurance company and believe me, state regulation of insurance increases company costs. Each plan had to be customized and required unique systems programming and additional personnel.

The federal government could play a key role in monitoring the private sector if health insurance, and not votes, is the goal. Today's companies take profits and give them to company managers and stockholders. Money doesn't trickle down and benefits don't improve.

Graham-Cassidy is not about healthcare, it's about re-election. Promises made to a shrinking minority that elected an incompetent, unethical business man.

Don't compound the problem by continuing to pander to his ego, rather than doing what is best for the American people. Instead of continuing along this path, why now address the issue by trying to improve healthcare? You may find that if you did that, the votes would come in the end.

There is room for private companies in the health care system, even if the goal is healthcare for all. The government can provide incentives, cost containment, and ultimately reduce hospital, doctor, pharma costs.

Stop governing by sound bites, slogans, and false narratives about taking away social programs to save money. Why not try saving money by making healthcare and any other social program run more efficiently? Wouldn't that be novel.

The American voters aren't stupid enough to buy the line that this plan benefits them. This is not a plan that any decent elected official should be associated with.

Helene Matesky  
New Hampshire

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Donna McDonald [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy: ACA repeal

I am absolutely opposed to Graham Cassidy. It will leave millions without adequate, affordable healthcare insurance coverage. Higher rates for pre-existing conditions and those older, re-instating annual and lifetime caps, considering pregnancy a pre-existing condition, the ability to exclude prescription coverage, removing a range of mandatory benefits such as mental health and rehabilitation that are so important for states experiencing an opioid crisis, will place many families under extreme financial stress.

Most disease, health, doctor and insurance groups are opposed to this legislation. Many governors opposed to this legislation.

Understanding states' rights, this is one instance whereby coverage should not vary state by state. It should be consistent throughout the country. If a person or family experiences an extreme medical condition it should not matter where they live. This is punishing those who usually have no control over the serious medical issues with which they are confronted.

Health care should not be a product of a particular party. It is paramount that a bi-partisan effort be initiated to fix the challenges with ACA, stabilize the markets, add a public option. This effort has been started, it should be continued.

Citizens of this country deserve adequate affordable health care. The Graham Cassidy bill is not the answer.

NO on this legislation

Donna McDonald

--  
*Donna M. McDonald*  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*'Hope is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense regardless of how it turns out.' Vaclav Havel*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Caroline Garber [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 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 ...millions will loose access to care. Tide witty asthma, who are pregnant will once again be denied from having insurance. Please please take the time to come up with a fix not a slash and burn. Senators now is the time for you to use every toool you have to ensure that this bill is not passed so that true work with adequate time abd vetting can begin

Caroline Garber

94501  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Show you care

Please vote no to Graham - Cassidy.

this is what your constituents want!!

Robin Schumacher  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rebecca McGovney-Ingram [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My husband was laid off a few months ago and due to the ACA (i.e. "obamacare") we were able to maintain health insurance for our entire family. This proved important as my doctor found I have need for an ultrasound and surgery right as my husband takes a new job and transitions back into employer based health insurance. First and foremost I oppose the new "healthcare" bill b/c it will not cover people with pre-existing conditions like I am now facing. Additionally, it will remove all protections currently in place and any system needs checks and balances.

You want to improve the healthcare legislation? Find, do that by supporting the bipartisan, transparent process that Senators Alexander and Murray are leading through regular order. Stop trying to undo something merely b/c you said you would and going against your own words where you accused democrats of "ramming legislation through." We have processes for a reason, use them!

--  
Rebecca McGovney-Ingram, Ph.D.  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Heckman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 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  
....  
Denying people healthcare is a disgrace Graham Cassidy is bad for me, bad for Pennsylvania and bad for the country.  
You don't even pretend to care about your constituents anymore. This is a desperate attempt to score a win at the  
expense of 32m people. Shame on you

Susan Heckman

18704  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Canalia, Caryn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** This bill is GHASTLY

How does this HELP Americans? Can you govern FOR us instead of AGAINST us. We want HEALTHCARE, not a tax cut for the super wealthiest among us.

GOVERN.

**Caryn Canalia**

**Mathematics and Computer Science**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elainy Lima [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Bill

Please, take in consideration my plea. I am someone who lives with a so call pre-existing condition, and am so scared. I know people who have been crying. I know people who are crying. This bill, like president Trump once said, is so mean. This bill is as bad as a genocide to the American poor and sick, paraphrasing Emma Lazarus. Please watch this video. If it does not break my heart, I don't what will.

[http://\[REDACTED\]](#)

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Debbie & David Casey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a constituent of member Bill Nelson. I hope that each of you will listen to those that you represent, as Mr. Nelson does for me, and not allow the proposed Graham Cassidy legislation to pass.

This is not a partisan issue for my family; it is not about right or left but, instead, about right or wrong.

I have a son, as I'm sure many of you do, whom I love with all of my heart, and would protect at all costs. My son is 23 years old, just starting out his life, graduating from college soon and in the process of applying to graduate schools. He is full of potential and promise. He could be one of you someday. I don't want all of this to be taken away from him because he goes bankrupt paying for his medical needs before he even has a chance.

My son has had asthma since he was a toddler, and was diagnosed with an auto-immune disorder at the age of 15. So, at his young adult age he already has 2 pre-existing conditions (through no fault of his own-these are not illnesses based on "life style choices"). He is fortunate because an infusion that he receives every 8 weeks (which, by the way, costs over \$10,000 even with insurance) has put him into remission and he can live the life of a healthy person rather than a sick person.

Please do not consider legislation that would not require **full, affordable** coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. It is not fair to my son nor millions of others who count on you to represent their best interests.

Thank you for your time,

Debra Casey

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anne Donovan (US - IFS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on Graham-Cassidy bill

My son is a Type 1 diabetic. There is no cure for this disease. He is 21 years old and will spend his life with a pre-existing condition.

Assuming he will always have a good job and be able to afford insurance, he can easily be in a position to be denied that insurance.

Please do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy. Lives will be changed forever.

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## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Meghan Kiley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please say NO to the new "healthcare" bill!

My name is Meghan Kiley. I am a 41-year-old female who was born with a genetic heart condition known as Prolonged QT interval. I live every day in fear that my heart will simply not restart. There are no warning signs, no symptoms, you just faint. If no one is around, a person can die. I was lucky enough to have doctors who recognized that my quality of life was so low, I didn't care if I lived or died. I also live with Major Depressive Disorder and generalized anxiety that almost killed me. Had I not had health insurance, I would be institutionalized or dead.

I don't think you understand that this really is a matter of life and death for some people.

YOU WORK FOR US! You are responsible for ensuring the citizens you represent are healthy and alive, because let's be real... The more you cut, the less people will be around to vote for you.

If you feel this so-called healthcare plan is good enough, then you should be on it as well.

My medications alone would cost \$11,000 a year. That doesn't include office visits or my every 3 month trip to the Mayo required to monitor my defibrillator. That is half my yearly salary. I work 4 jobs. I still can't make ends meet. Pay is low, Healthcare is too expensive and when you add in things that people have no control over and take the preexisting conditions away, even once you're in the private sector, you'll be denied. Oh wait, you'll be set for life.

It seems the more people try to better themselves, you cut us down again. Why don't you give your government Healthcare to everyone? Because the pharmaceutical companies won't make money?

Please VOTE NO and PROVE to your constituents that you care about them and not the almighty dollar. Because the way it looks right now, you want to see the weak and poor dead. You're telling me my life doesn't matter and I've fought too long to prove to myself that it does. I will keep fighting you on this.

You only care about yourselves.

Healthcare is a right. We are a greedy nation and nothing says it more than the current administration. You'll spend 7 trillion dollars on a war that has nothing to do with us but will cut basic survival needs for human beings. Like medical care. Most of you claim to be Christians... This isn't Christian behavior to throw away the poor and sick.

Most of you have a place secure in hell for the way you've been treating the American people. We aren't divided by race, we are divided by the rich and the poor. And the rich barely do anything to make this country what it is. Without the poor, no one would clean your houses, no one would wash your cars, no one would fly your private jets, no one would clean up after you on your private jet. You wouldn't have groceries on the shelves or toiletries or gas in your vehicle. The garbage would pile up in your driveway and your driveway probably would crack up anyway because no one is there to repair it.

VOTE NO. CARE FOR THOSE WHO VOTE FOR YOU AND EVEN THOSE WHO DON'T BECAUSE THAT IS YOUR GOD DAMN JOB.

Meghan Kiley

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Trumpcare!

Vote NO! Stop lieing to the people...Linsay Graham should be ashamed of himself. Lost all respect for him and all republicans. Sickening what they are trying to do to the sick people of our country...



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Luke Webe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** On the ACA

My wife and I both suffer from pre-existing conditions. Without the ACA we both would have gone beyond our lifetime amounts and would be in financial ruin. Please don't put our lives at risk for the sake of a political victory.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No on the Graham- Cassidy Health Care Bill

Vote No on the Graham- Cassidy Health Care 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.

Vote No on the Graham- Cassidy Health Care Bill

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kim Halbom [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I have an auto-immune disease, one that I will have all my life. And while I am working full time with an amazing company that provides fantastic benefits that would change under this plan. I know this, with 100% certainty, because this bill would allow life time limits again, and as my family found out when I was diagnosed at the age of 16, those limits hit fast, within 3 months of diagnosis with on and off again hospital stays. A lifetime, my life time, of paying into a health insurance policy and then using it for three months they told us that at 16 my life did not matter, that I was and would remain too expensive to keep alive. Can you concieve of how that feels to be told that by the people that you thought were there to protect you!? For a time I thought that would mean I would die. I was lucky. I didn't, and my family escaped financial ruin, just barely. But if this bill passes, I will again be face by that same insurance company telling me I am too expensive to keep alive, no matter that I've paid my premiums, no matter that I've paid my high deductible, I cost too much, my transplant medication cost too much, my specialist doctors appointments cost too much. That is what they will say, because you let them. If you support this bill, you can never again claim to be pro-life, as it would be a death sentence to so many like myself! Do not be so cruel, and so unfeeling as to commit so many to die, because you believe it will save money. It won't, it will cost lives. It would also be financially devistating to our country. Medical expenses are not covered by bankruptcy, and you will find that millions of Americans, as they are kicked off of their insurance and still require care, will end up filing for bankruptcy for their personal expenses, because they are being crushed under the never ending weight of medical debt. Eventually people will stop paying their medical bills altogether, as they cannot afford to pay them, so doctors, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, and drug companies will be forced to raise their prices over and over, adding to the cycle. This system, it will cripple our contry, it will be the death blow of the middle class, and will devistate what's left of the republican base.

May God have no mercy on anyone that would vote to hurt their constituents in such a devistating manner. We the people demand LIFE, LIBEERTY, and the PERSUIT OF HAPPINESS; none of which will exist for millions, if this bill is allowed to pass! For all the talk of this being a "Christian" Nation, I don't see anyone in the GOP acting Christlike! Shame on anyone who votes for this bill!

Kim Halbom

18964  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Betsy Crenshaw [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal ACA

I went 9 years and 11 months cancer free. I was living in bliss thinking I got this. I even got the 5 year pink ribbon tattoo on my ankle. I was starting to get some excruciating rib and back pain. Had to take an ambulance to the ER because I couldn't walk to the car. They sent me home with some muscle relaxers and told me to rest. The pain subsides but then returned. I went to my PCP this time and she sent me for X-rays. I remember it was a Saturday. I wasn't even home before she called me (never a good sign) and told me that my ribs showed lesions that were cancer. Wow!!

So for the past year I have had tests (the rib bone biopsy was the most interesting) radiation for pain relief and take oral chemotherapy and hormone treatments. The pills are \$500 a piece. My monthly shots are \$6k. Crazy but life or death.

I am lucky enough to have had great work insurance but with pain and treatment I could no longer work. I was quickly approved for SSDI. Now I wait the two years for Medicare. I am on my husbands insurance but I worry that if something were to happen to his job that we will be placed on the open marketplace and my little cancer will be a preexisting condition. I remember back when people were forced to get insurance through high risk pools. Astronomical premiums, high deductibles and basically horrible insurance. They are saying with this new plan premiums could be as high as \$142k a year with metastasized cancer. That would bankrupt us. We've already had to sell our home and downsize with our reduced income.

So I am calling, emailing, faxing and pleading Senators to please vote no on the bill. I know the ACA needs improvement. Why can't our elected officials do what's best for their constituents and work across the aisle to bring us a better solution? This is life or death for so many people.

Thank you,  
Betsy Crenshaw

[REDACTED]  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment on Graham/Cassidy

I have no idea what is in your hearts, but if you have any sense of decency you will vote against this monstrous attack on the sick, the poor, and the rest of us who aren't billionaires.

Kade Crockford  
Boston, MA

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Note to the NSA: I'm a US person. Get a warrant.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nicole Washington [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because as a physician this is no different than the other bills that have been pushed through that would leave millions of Americans without health insurance. The other bills were upfront about how they would do this and this current bill is just sneaky, but no different. Anything that would cut Medicaid expansion at this point is basically going to leave millions of Americans without insurance and is absolutely unacceptable. Anything that does not protect Americans with pre-existing conditions is also completely unacceptable, and a lot of those Americans would be children. Also, I really want all of you to just stop. You keep trying to push these bills through with different names all trying to accomplish the same thing of ripping health insurance away from Americans and once again, it is absolutely unacceptable and everyone is simply tired of all of it. Please put your egos aside, work on fixing the issues with Obamacare which have more to do with insurance companies and loopholes than the Medicaid expansion, and move on to getting more in touch with the American people. Even people who voted Republican and for Trump want to keep their Obamacare. Please let everyone do so.

Sincerely,

A very concerned pediatrician

Nicole Washington

19106  
[REDACTED]

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Despres [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy/Graham Bill

Good morning,

Please let me share with you why the healthcare bill proposed by Senators Graham and Cassidy would irretrievably harm me and my family.

I have a rare condition that caused my brain to herniate out of my skull. I had no idea I had this congenital disorder until I began having symptoms of neurological injury after my first child was born. An MRI showed that my cerebellar tonsils were descended out of my skull, causing compression of my brainstem and blocking the flow of cerebral spinal fluid. This fluid backed up into my spinal cord, causing a huge fluid filled cyst to form in the center of my cord. The damage done is irreversible.

I require yearly brain, cervical spine & thoracic spine MRIs to monitor my condition. I require yearly appointments with specialists including a neurosurgeon, neurologist, cardiologist, geneticist, orthopedic surgeons, and physical therapy. The only treatment for me involves invasive brain surgery to relieve the compression on my brain and brainstem. Surgery is not a fix, it a treatment of last resort to slow the progression of disabling and life threatening neurological injury.

As horrible as it was to learn about my Chiari and Syringomyelia diagnoses in 2013, at least I had the assurance that I would not lose my health insurance because of it. Now I live in fear that I will lose my insurance and be able to obtain the care I need to monitor and treat my progressive, painful, and disabling neurological condition.

I've worked hard all my life, believing it was right to pay my taxes for the benefit of all Americans, because I believe together we show the world the greatness of a free society that cares for its citizens and provides for those among us who are vulnerable and in need.

Today I am the one who needs help. Today I am in need of medical care that will enable me to continue to raise my children and be a contributing and productive citizen in our society.

My hope rests in the decisions you will all make regarding this bill. Please do not jeopardize my life and future, and those of millions Americans like me who are counting on you. The ACA for all its flaws has given me hope that I will be able to get the care I need to live a productive life and provide for my family. I and millions of Americans beg you to consider the cost you will incur if states are given the right to deny us health care because of our pre-existing conditions. Our deaths and resulting disabilities will add to the burden and diminish us as a nation.

Don't be pennywise and pound foolish by enacting legislation that hurts millions of Americans like me. Stand up for the values all Americans treasure, and protect our right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Thank you for your time and consideration. God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

Sincerely

Susan Despres ("day-pray")  
Brookline, NH 03033

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joy Hui Lin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cutting Healthcare Is a Deplorable Act

You make me ashamed to call myself American, how can it be debatable whether cutting taxes on behalf of the Koch brothers' masterplan and eliminating healthcare for 30 million people is permissible? Have you no conscience?

Sincerely, Joy Hui Lin

Joy Hui Lin  
Journalist  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** joey parsons - [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

To All This May Concern:

I'm writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed healthcare repeal that will leave millions uninsured. I am grateful that through the ACA, my mother has been able to attain excellent care for her stage 4 bone cancer. I am concerned that under this proposed bill, now that cancer runs in my family, I may be denied coverage down the line. I am an asthmatic - I lived in Brooklyn, downwind of the World Trade Center in 2001, and unfortunately developed asthma. My asthma is considered a pre-existing condition. I need (expensive) medication in order to work. Are you aware that without insurance, ONE Advair inhaler is \$400? Doesn't \$400 sound asinine for ONE inhaler - a month's worth of medication? Do you want people like me - people who WANT to work - to be forced to file for disability because they cannot work due to a medical condition that they cannot afford to maintain? Would you prefer the government subsidize a life of non-productivity and non-contribution because I cannot afford medication?

Thank you for your consideration,  
Joey Parsons

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gus Hawthorn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill is nothing of the kind. It is wealthcare plain and simple and needs to be passed to pave the way for tax cuts for the rich.

Let me tell you about a little girl in my life, my niece Emmy, who is six years old. She is the toughest kid I know. She was born with Cystic Fibrosis and has the lung disorder we associate with the disease but she also has a compromised digestive system. Emmy has had 5 surgeries, 35 procedures, countless X-rays, and has been hospitalized 30 times. All of this in her first six years of life. She spent her first 90 days of life in the NICU. Every day of her first-grade life she gets up in the morning, takes her meds and puts on a mechanical vest that pounds her little body for 30 minutes to allow her to breathe. She then gets dressed like any other little kid and heads out the door for school but that's where the similarity ends. She vomits frequently and can never be far from a bathroom. That's a lot for a kid in first grade to handle. She recently had a five-day stay in the hospital at which time doctors completely cleaned out her system to install sensors throughout her digestive tract to try to understand her problems and give her some relief. Emmy's dad is a hard working independent trucker. Her mom runs the business. Emmy's older sister helps watch out for her. The family has insurance but it falls short of covering all the costs. Medi-Cal pays for many of the procedures and equipment needed for her care that the insurance does not cover. Medi-Cal is directly linked to the ACA through Medicaid. Should the ACA go away or Medicaid coverage be reduced, Emmy's family will be financially ruined and her care compromised.

The ACA is not a socialistic handout. Emmy and her family represent hard working Americans across this country who, as hard as they work, cannot afford the healthcare they deserve. Get the politics and greed out of the way. Just improve the ACA for the Emmys and their families and move ahead. Rename it if you want to but do not leave millions of Americans inadequately insured or with no insurance at all. Anything less is totally unacceptable.

VOTE NO ON THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL.

Respectfully, Henry Hawthorn Oceanside, CA 92054

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ramon Ramos [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I am writing about the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill. We should return to a regular order. You should work on improving the existing laws with all members being able to have input. We need a vote where all members must work together for the good of all the American people. To put something as important as health care on a deadline just days away is ridiculous. I fear that you are choosing party over sincerely caring about the people this would have a devastating outcome on. There are so many of us that are so fearful of losing our healthcare, or having to pick our health over just our day to day bills. My husband and I will be living on a small fixed income. The thought of premiums being out of reach for us is frightening. The thought of working hard and playing by the rules our whole lives and getting to the finish line and finding that now all we have worked for will just not be enough, is heartbreaking.

Please remember...there really is not a September 30th deadline....if you work together after this date and take the time to look at all the possibilities maybe we can all breath a sigh of relief! Please vote no on the Graham/ Cassidy Bill....do not pick party over people. Your country is counting on you to do the right thing. Your votes will have an enormous impact on all of us.....so do not rush this issue. Thank you for taking time to hear my thoughts.

Jean Ramos  
A concerned Citizen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Liz Tigelaar [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do NOT support Graham Cassidy

This has not been vetted. Healthcare shouldn't be rushed. This isn't adequate coverage for those who need it. Do not support!

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deborah McNaughton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

This act is simply unaffordable and without mercy  
for the most vulnerable in our society.  
The impact on rural areas will be devastating.  
At the least, please get cbo scores before proceeding.  
Deborah McNaughton  
Staunton, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Cher Customer [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham/Cassidy

I am a retired teacher -- there are so many things wrong with this Bill, but as an advocate for children/students I must speak to the medicaid cuts, they will adversely affect special education programs and children health programs -- please work through regular order and find bipartisan solutions -- REPAIR NOT REPEAL OF ACA -- we need solutions to help not hurt children, they are our future and they are innocent -- please thank you

Cheryl  
94044

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Robbins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Republicans selling American lives for money

This voter will never vote republican again even if this unChristian and rash bill does not pass. That republicans would protect a dangerous moron like Trump and try to pass a law that impacts 1/6th of the economy without hearings or a CBO score means the party has become irretrievably broken. Or else every republican legislator is simply stupid or evil.

I don't know why the GOP turned from a conservative party to a party of idiocy and nonsense, but it is no longer my party. I hope every republican in congress experiences great tragedies throughout their lives until they finally die. Each of you will go down in history the same as the legislators who voted to keep slavery and voted to suppress women.

Republicans trying with all their might to murder millions of elderly, poor, and our veterans in order for Robert Mercer to give the GOP donations in exchange for a few million dollars in tax breaks? I really cannot believe republicans have become so dishonorable and completely faithless to the oaths you swore. You are each stupid, you are evil, and America will win in the end as this country will abort you and your faithless brethren.

Susan Robbins  
NYC, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** AM\_gmail [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

With all due respect:

Please resume working on a true bipartisan healthcare bill and reject the Graham/Cassidy bill.

Pushing this bill forward is insulting to all of us trying so hard to be Americans together after so much divisiveness. How many times does repeal and replace (at any price) precede our core values as citizens?

It is imperative that we work together to fix whatever is not working to benefit all Americans.

Thank you very much.

Ann Marie Duross



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** BM [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I as well as most Americans, as well as EVERY respected medical association, and the 50 states' Directors of Medicaid believe that this bill will hurt Americans while giving tax breaks to the wealthy.

It is a stunningly bad piece of legislation. There is no data to support it from the CBO or any reputable medical group, it is being race thru votes so that Americans will have NO recourse to weigh in.

This is a cruel, soulless plan that will hurt the voters. It is a plan being rushed through simply so that the GOP and the president can say they won. And to appease your largest donors.

This is not for the people. It is a plan I implore you to reject. PLEASE do the right thing and vote no! And fix the fixable: Obamacare. Then call it GOPcare or Trumpcare.

--

*Thank you,*  
Barbara McGowan  
[REDACTED]  
Dedham, MA 02026  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I as well as most Americans, as well as EVERY respected medical association, and the 50 states' Directors of Medicaid believe that this bill will hurt Americans while giving tax breaks to the wealthy.

It is a stunningly bad piece of legislation. There is no data to support it from the CBO or any reputable medical group, it is being race thru votes so that Americans will have NO recourse to weigh in.

This is a cruel, soulless plan that will hurt the voters. It is a plan being rushed through simply so that the GOP and the president can say they won. And to appease your largest donors.

This is not for the people. It is a plan I implore you to reject. PLEASE do the right thing and vote no! And fix the fixable: Obamacare. Then call it GOPcare or Trumpcare.

--  
*Thank you,*  
Barbara McGowan  
[REDACTED]  
Dedham, MA 02026  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lorna & Larry Collins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO

Please vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. This is far worse than the current system. Slow down and craft a BETTER plan, not a worse one.

Larry K. Collins

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** bishopk98 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Monstrosity

Stop hating on Obama for a heartbeat and worry about the American people for a change, not just your tiny rabid Trump base. ACA isn't perfect but Congress has done nothing to make it better. You've Vote over sixty times to get rid of it, even tho it was originally a Heritage Foundation idea and largely replicated a Republican governor's framework. Fix the flaws and stop trying to deny 32 million Americans needed coverage and a system that was better than before. If you let it die, we will come back harder than ever for single payer which big donors hate even more. We will not be killed by the deliberate actions of a political group that just doesn't give a damn about the lives of its fellow citizens. This GC bill should cause the entire Congress nothing but shame that it's gotten this far. SHAME!

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maureen Child [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** now

There's much in this bill that I don't like. Keeping the taxes for one. But it's a start. Obamacare is killing us all.

DO SOMETHING USEFUL.

Pass this bill. Repeal Obamacare

Maureen Child

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Angie Barnes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham cassidy bill

The American people desperately need bipartisanship on healthcare. Someone always gets screwed with the current system. Uninsured Americans cause a rise in healthcare for ALL. This bill will become unaffordable to ALL of us if it passes. This isn't the answer . Americans want AMD need universal care. It is time. If other countries can do it, we definitely can. It is unfair and cruel to hurry and pass a bill that hasn't been scored.by the CBO. I urge our lawmakers to study how other countries implement their healthcare. Japans system is a success and lowers costs substantially. Do NOT harm your citizens. It is the most important subject right now. You work with president trump, not for him. You do however, work for all Americans.

Thank you

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Sent from my Android phone with [mail.com](mailto:) Mail. Please excuse my brevity.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mariana Lachiusa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

**To the Senate Finance Committee to Consider:**

**As a Young Farmer, I will be unable to afford healthcare if the ACA is repealed, I beg you to consider these KEY POINTS when considering the GrahamCassidy Repeal and Replace Act-**

- This is a vote to reorder one-sixth of the US economy without a CBO score. The bare minimum required for beginning consideration on this bill should be a full Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score.
  
- **All 50 Medicaid Directors have come out against this bill.** "Taken together, the per-capita caps and the envisioned block grant would constitute the largest intergovernmental transfer of financial risk from the federal government to the states in our country's history," NAMD's board of directors wrote in a statement Thursday.
  
- The bill contains provisions that would allow states to waive key consumer protections and undermine safeguards for those with pre-existing condition.
  
- The bill reduces funding for many states significantly and would increase uncertainty in the marketplace, making coverage more expensive and jeopardizing Americans' choice of health plans.
  
- 
- The bill does not ensure adequate funding for Medicaid to protect the most vulnerable Americans.
  
- With only a few legislative days left for there clearly is not sufficient time for policymakers, Governors, Medicaid Directors, or other critical stakeholders to engage in the thoughtful deliberation necessary to ensure successful long-term reforms.

**Please use a bipartisan approach to improve and mend the ACA for the sake of all in need and many hardworking average Americans like myself who will be gravely harmed.** Thank you for considering the views of The People who do not want you to destroy their opportunity to have healthcare.

Mariana Lachiusa

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathryn Emory [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment Against

I have friends who will die and whose families will be left with crippling debt if you pass this.

I will not forget when the next election cycle comes around.

I am 66 years old and have voted Republican most of my life. But there was a time when Republicans worked for the good of the country, and I no longer see this.

Kathryn Emory



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Rickie Hall [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

This is the worst health care bill yet. Less money and more possibility that people will be left without insurance - or with premiums they can't afford. Especially people with pre-existing conditions. children, the poor and the elderly.

Thanks GOP for being such caring human beings!!! LOL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeri Westerson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do NOT pass this harmful bill

Passing this bill will mean the end of my insurance coverage. Fact. End of story.

I have pre-existing conditions, I'm a senior, and I am reaching retirement age. What is it you legislators are doing in Washington? You have no idea what the average person with a middle class income--and we are talking a yearly income of around \$65K--can afford. At least with the ACA we get a subsidy. And I have no fear that I couldn't get my asthma medicine to SAVE MY LIFE. And my free mammogram to SAVE MY LIFE. But this bill doesn't protect me or my friends with cancer and other disabilities at all! Just like human rights, healthcare has no business being "left to the states."

This is not governing. This is irresponsible. This is inhumane. This is pandering to your donors and NOT the American people.

Do NOT vote for this outrageous bill!

Jeri Westerson  
voter and citizen of California

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Georgia Morgan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** budget and financial consequences of Graham-Cassidy Bill

It is the height of fiscal responsibility to even discuss this bill before a CBO score is released.

Georgia Morgan

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dana Bowser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this would have a devastating impact on people and it is not acceptable.

Dana Bowser

18974  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** danceswithgary . [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Plea to stop the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to ask that the Graham-Cassidy bill be required to follow proper order instead of trying to bypass the hearings necessary to ensure this attempt to change/repeal the ACA. It is unconscionable that partisanship is forcing hardship on so many Americans.

My daughter is disabled and on Medicaid because she is living near poverty-level. Her pre-existing condition would drive insurance costs too high for her to afford and this is the same for too many others.

Please stop this from happening just to make a partisan deadline.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Eickman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 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.

Elizabeth Eickman  
[REDACTED]  
WEST MILTON, OH 45383  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ren Messer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham Cassidy

I am a registered voter from Somis, CA against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act by the Graham-Cassidy bill. I demand a return to order in our Senate. This matter affects 1/6th of our economy and should be debated in a bipartisan committee. This is our healthcare! This is American lives and it seems the Republican party has decided lives don't matter in favor of a political win but this is morally and ethically and fiscally wrong for our Country. Medicaid works. Medicaid cannot be stripped away or seniors and the disabled and poor children will become casualties and we will all suffer the burden of costs. Graham Cassidy is not a feasible working solution to anything- it's a pathetic attempt to circumvent regular order for a cheap political win by a party in chaos for having chosen a madman as its leader. Stop this insanity. 32 million Americans losing their healthcare would mean economic ruin and chaos to our country. It would be the end of the Republican party. No real protections for pre-existing conditions? Really? All progress from ACA stripped, really? Can you really consider this a working piece of legislation you can put your name on? Well you cannot in my name and I vote every single election. I am an active, engaged voter and I am keeping score.

VOTE NO ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY. RETURN TO REGULAR ORDER! This is my country.

best,  
Ren

Karen Messer  
Somis, California 93066  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Philip Obley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The graham cassidy bill harms many americans, including start up businesses and self employed, who have used the availability of affordable UNSUBSIDIZED coverage to pursue careers and CREATE JOBS. If you don't appreciate this aspect of the ACA it is time you did.

In my specific case two of my adult children are self-employed, and are covered by individual insurance. Both receive no subsidy. Repeal of the existing law will make coverage much more expensive. If you don't understand why talk to an actuary.

Philip Obley

19003  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Angela Davis [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Angela Davis

[REDACTED]  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Why isn't the Senate waiting until the CBO report on the effects of this bill has been released?? Why are they holding their vote before finding out its effects? This would be like me buying a \$300,000 house without having it inspected by experts, or even looking at it myself!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Kevin Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy is terrible

I can't emphasize enough how bad this healthcare bill is. Every healthcare association and organization has come out against it. AARP has come out against it. It raises rates, denies coverage. It's terrible!!  
Fix Obamacare! But replacing it with this garbage is unconscionable!!  
Kevin Smith  
Madison, WI

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paul Mougey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO NO NO Graham-Cassidy

I can't believe anyone is even CONSIDERING this obscene bill. What it takes away is already making me sick .....

Paul Mougey  
Chicago, IL

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Trish <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to GCH

My diabetic brother had been unable to work because of numbness in his feet. So he had no health insurance when he got a massive infection in one foot. He had septic shock and kidney failure then ended up losing his foot.

It was only because of the ACA-mandated coverage, despite a pre-existing condition, that he now has health insurance. And since he is now permanently disabled, he benefits from Medicaid expansion.

This is just one story. How many others like him will be left uncovered by the cruel cuts in the GrahamCassidy bill? What will happen when GCH caps benefits? We must protect the disabled, the elderly, our veterans and women's health. I do NOT support the end of mental health benefits. I do NOT expect that the state governments will maintain the level of funding provided by the federal government..

I am calling on all of Congress to REJECT GrahamCassidyHeller!

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Helana Sharum [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill for many reasons:

1. It will take health care away from 30 million people
  2. There will be massive state funding cuts
  3. The CBO score is missing – we don't know the cost!
  4. Costs will go up for pre-existing conditions – this one hits home the most as a Mom of a son being treated for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, ALL, Cancer! He was diagnosed at 2 ½ years old, is almost 5 and still has just shy of a year of chemotherapy treatment remaining. After that he will have many years of follow up care.
  5. More VETS will be uninsured
  6. More Kids will be uninsured
  7. AARP, AMA, ALS Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Volunteers of America and SO MANY MANY MANY MORE groups oppose this Bill!
- PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!

Sincerely,  
Helana Sharum  
Concerned American Citizen

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Brian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham Cassidy Bill

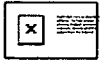
Hello,

My wife passed away 2 years ago, leaving me as a single dad to twin girls on the Autism Spectrum. Many of the services my children receive are funded through a medicaid waiver and New York's OPWDD.

There is absolutely no way that I would be able to survive without the medicaid services. My girls need assistance with certain ADLs and while they are 12 chronologically, they are not on the social and knowledge level of their peers. If i did not have these services, I would also not have a way to pay for the child care that is needed since they come home from school long before I get home from work.

The loss of the medicaid program as it is currently constructed would be a devastating to me and many other families in a similar situation. I urge you to vote NO on this bill.

Brian Posnack  
[REDACTED]



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Corinne Balint <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it puts children's lives at stake.

Dr. Corinne Balint, FAAP

Corinne Balint

15221  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** jeff close [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal 9/25/17

My name: Jeri Close  
My address: [REDACTED] Madison, WI 53716

My sister, Dickie, had a brain tumor removed in 2006, and she received radiation and chemotherapy after the surgery. Fortunately, she had insurance at the time. However, her cognitive decline resulted in the loss of her job and health insurance. My family has struggled to get her the care she needs as her condition continues to decline. We have jumped through all the hoops, read thousands of pages of state and federal requirements for funding her care. She currently receives Medicaid funding and lives in a group home. However, she will eventually need a memory care facility. Her quality of life and dignity are a top priority to us and all families with disabled family members. I have no idea where we would be without Medicaid.

That's why what is happening thousands of miles away in Washington, DC this week is so personal to families like mine. The debate over whether to call it a "cut" or a "slowing of growth" or "reduced reimbursement" does not change the fact that multiple non-partisan experts predict that Wisconsin and all other states will receive significantly less federal monies for Medicaid over the next ten years. Wisconsin specifically stands to lose \$2.9 billion by 2027 and \$29 billion by 2036.

Families like mine are tired of the rhetoric.

Wisconsin did not take the Medicaid expansion dollars, we have been extremely efficient with our Medicaid funding. We are a leader in the nation. Why are we being punished in the bill being pushed through the U.S. Senate?

This is the stuff that keeps family members of disabled loved ones awake at night.

Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Jeri Close

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Schahan Tchapraste [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH healthcare bill

Ordinarily I would address all Republican Senators with a modicum of civility and respect; alas, we are way beyond that point. The GCH healthcare bill is an immoral piece of trash and you should be ashamed of yourselves! You have been trying to undo a program, the ACA, that has helped save lives for the past 6 years! You and your Republican cohorts have lost your moral compass and will be voted out in 2018! SHAME ON YOU!

Schahan Tchapraste

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dawn Olmstead [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

The proposed repeal and replace of the ACA is a death sentence to many AMERICANS. How can YOU , in GOOD Conscience, allow this to continue? YOU were voted into office to represent US, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE and it is a dereliction of duty to allow this abomination to pass. Once again, You were voted into office to REPRESENT US. You can very easily be voted out.

Dawn M Olmstead  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sallylewis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Americans cannot afford to lose health care!

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Adam Sohmer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy bill is an abomination; an insult to Americans who only want to provide their families with basic healthcare.

**Adam Sohmer**

[REDACTED]

Adam Sohmer <[REDACTED]>

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Abbie Boggs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** healthcare for americans!!!

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.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Simon Dicker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** This bill will hurt me.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to submit a public comment on the latest health plan.

In short this bill will hurt me and my family. The Affordable Care Act introduced protections for those of us with pre-existing conditions (of which I am one) and mandates minimum coverage for such things as maternity care. Giving the states the right to remove these protections as they see fit should not be in this bill. Granted it could reduce health care costs for the lucky few - especially those that do not need currently coverage however that reduction of cost will be passed on to people who do need coverage. The moment people with these skimpy plans get sick (or decide to have a child) then they will be paying out of pocket and will be no better off. In short this bill gets rid of the very notion of insurance - and should not be passed.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Simon Dicker

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Parse [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

To whom it may concern:

I have a very personal, but sadly not unique, story about healthcare. I am so sick of politicians talk about America's need to return to a "market driven" healthcare system. Return?? The " market driven" system we had was an abject failure. Why would we return to that??

My Brother was a victim of that wonderful " market driven " system of the past.

In 1999 he was diagnosed with MARFANS in the most dramatic fashion; with an eight hour surgery 2,000 miles from home- out of the network of his insurance plan. When he survived and returned home he began not only his battle to survive but his battle with the insurance industry that had already paid out on him more than the total of all the premiums he and those employed in his small company had paid together. In other words, he was a negative cipher on the insurance company's balance sheet. To secure their main goal of PROFIT, their vested interest was to see him dead, and over the next several years all of their actions seemed sickeningly dedicated to that goal.

Finally after multiple surgeries my brother reached his " lifetime max" of one million dollars and his insurance was cancelled. (Not that they notified my Brother but allowed him to continue paying non- refundable premiums for another 5 months. My Brother's doctor informed him that he should stop paying because he no longer had coverage.) With a pre-existing condition he was untouchable and the " state high risk pool", now being touted AGAIN as a solution by Republicans, was completely unaffordable.

My Brother was fortunate to have been a Veteran of the Marine Corp and was able to quickly get care thanks to the intervention of his world famous Doctor. Unfortunately, the VA hospital was 90 miles away from his home.

Long sad story short: In 2010 my Brother presented at the local ER, whose staff were completely familiar with his case as twice before, when he had insurance, they had treated him and life flighted him 90 miles to the Houston Medical Center.

That night they pumped him full of morphine- " stabilized him" and sent him out with instructions "to follow up tomorrow at the VA".

Three miles and 10 minutes later my Brother died massively hemorrhaging in the front seat of his daughter's car.

Now, I know he was seriously ill with a condition he had fought for 12 years, through 7 surgeries, and he possibly would have died with even the most stupendous of immediate care. Still, HE WOULD HAVE DIED WITH DIGNITY on a hospital gurney and not traumatically in his daughter's car.

None of the last 12 YEARS of my Bother's life would have been the same had it occurred in the time of the ACA. He would have had the same struggle with MARFANS but he would not have had the added burden of fighting the insurance industry and ultimately losing BOTH battles.

So when I hear " repeal" and the Republican statements of returning to the hell of " market driven" healthcare; I am outraged. I know my outrage is shared by MILLIONS of other people with similar and even worse stories of the "care" provided by an industry whose mission is PROFIT.



Not " NO" but "HELL NO". The health of the American people is NOT A COMMODITY to be traded on Wall Street like corn and pork bellies. Our health is more than a cipher on a profit and loss balance sheet in some insurance company boardroom.

HELL NO.

Sent from my iPad Linda Parsel

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** mahvash samiian <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO

Graham Cassidy bill will devastate millions of American families.  
Stop this hateful revenge and think of all the people you will hurt.  
No, it won't effect me, but I do have compassion unlike so many of you politicians.  
VOTE NO!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tim Lacy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Good morning. I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Although I am relatively content with my current employer-based insurance, I fear that the Graham-Cassidy Bill, conceived to replace the ACA, will disrupt the lives of many families and friends in my neighborhood in Chicago. Beyond that, I fear that through the Graham-Cassidy Bill injustices will be perpetrated on those I don't know, who are disadvantaged and in need through no fault of their own.

High-quality, employer-based insurance is something of a luxury. Given that I favor an ACA replacement that approaches Medicare-for-all. But if I can't have that, I'd prefer \*improvements\* to the ACA over the Graham-Cassidy bill, which will cause many to lose even the barest coverage offered through the ACA. We must maintain or improve current Medicaid across the nation.

Sincerely,  
Tim Lacy

[REDACTED]  
Chicago, IL 60660  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Spark <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Strongly opposed to proposed Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

I hope that you will vote in opposition to this bill. We cannot afford a bill that structures health care in such a way to cause likely Medicaid cuts and limits on insurance for pre-existing conditions.

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness...life is the first and most important, without adequate health care, there is no life.

Laura Spark

[REDACTED]  
Jamaica Plain MA 02130

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jennifer Parise [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill statement

September 22, 2017

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Jennifer Parise and I live in Portland, Oregon. I work for Multnomah County Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled Person's Services. I am a mother of a child with a disability, the wife of a man who has depression and a person who has medical issues that need and receive care.

I am incredibly concerned about not only my own family's access to medical care under this repeal bill, but also the access of the people in the community that I serve. Our clients receive care through Medicaid and Oregon Health Plan. Oregon stands to lose the most out of all 50 states in this plan. There are people in my community who will suffer and will die without their medical care.

Many of my friends are free-lancers or writers or artists, and through the ACA they were able to get health insurance and for some, the first health care they had had since they were children. These people will also lose their insurance and care, through either costs rising beyond all reason or being kicked off due to pre-existing conditions.

People all over this country will lose their health care, the numbers are already coming in about the costs to individual persons and to the states. This is not to say that the ACA is perfect, it does need work. We need to look into what other countries around the world have done to control prices for their people and how they have increased access to medical care for their people.

I hope that you will not vote for this bill, and will instead consider INCREASING access to care and LOWERING the costs for the people of this nation. If we can spend 700 billion dollars on the military without a question of "where will the money come from??" perhaps we can look into health care for the people of this country.

Thank you!

Jennifer Parise

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Betty Widerski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy

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

My story is that my wife and I were BOTH diagnosed with cancer a month apart 9 months ago. Even with the yearly co-pay max on our insurance we have paid out thousands of dollars for co-pays, non-covered medications, transportation to treatments, etc. And of course now we have "pre-existing conditions." With less/no coverage we would already be bankrupt and homeless.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Widerski  
Arlington MA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elin hert [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Dear Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. .  
Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We are able to squeak by, but would be devastated if we could not afford to be covered by insurance or pay our medical bills. We feel that this country is a better place when all Americans can sleep at night knowing that they are covered for their most basic needs.  
I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Elin Hert  
Bozeman, Montana

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sally Baldwin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Kick a nation when it's down!! Drive a spike through its still (barely) beating heart!!

RUIN ITS CITIZENS by depriving them of health care.

YAY, vote for this outrageous, stupid, evil measure, and finish off our country for good.

REPUBLICANS!!! WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE!!!!

Sarah L Baldwin  
Belfast, ME



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jessica Zweig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** healthcare

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Everyone should be able to receive quality, affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Working together is a great way to make improvements for all.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Zweig  
Poestenkill, New York

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lesliann Furcht [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. As do MILLIONS of Americans. **Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.** We need Congress to HEAR that Americans MUST HAVE affordable healthcare, and the MAJORITY of American citizens SUPPORT the need for affordable healthcare. The ACA needs improvement. Throwing it out without a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve it will wreck havoc on millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

Lesliann Furcht  
Mount Washington, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carole Joyce [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill ▾

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

My sister and I have severe arthritis and we would not be able to afford coverage due to pre-existing conditions. But I am especially concerned about my young adult son with a mental health issue. His pre-existing condition could cripple him for life without affordable health care.

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

Sincerely,

Carole Joyce from Rochester, MN

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Micki Leventhal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not repeal ACA

I am a citizen of the U.S., a taxpayer, a senior citizen and member of AARP, a friend and relative of a number of individuals whose lives — even in the short term — depend on affordable health care/insurance, and a person who takes the American value of the importance of helping the community, not hurting it, seriously.

For all these reasons, I inform you that — in the absolutely strongest possible way — I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill. I beseech you to turn away from this effort that will destroy millions of individuals and their families. I beg you to work toward a bipartisan program that will guarantee affordable healthcare to all Americans — improving, not repealing, the ACA.

While (as an older adult ‘married’ to old-school grammar), I question the statement “Healthcare is a human right”, I do believe — for both philosophical/ethical and economic/practical reasons — that the ultimate best solution is to work toward a system of universal health care and join the rest of the developed/democratic nations of the world in managing an equitable, affordable system that provides quality care for ALL citizens.

Sincerely,  
Monica Leventhal  
Forest Park, IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

I and my family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is I'm raising grand children born with both physical and mental disabilities and I can't afford the rates i the new plan and I'm scared my grands would not have access to care because of their pre-existing condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please consider ordinary citizens like myself and NOT vote for the Graham-Cassidy bill. Be a hero like John McCain!!!

Sincerely,

Jan Pena-Davis

River Forest, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cate Kelley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I rely on quality, affordability healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.  
As a senior living in a remote rural area, having affordable healthcare is crucial to my tenuous situation here.

A strong bipartisan Congressional effort could improve the ACA. Please don't repeal it!

Sincerely,  
Catherine Kelley  
Jamaica, Vermont

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kersti Bryan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Concerned about Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story as being a young person and an artist is that having an expressed affordable option of insurance made is possible for me to cover myself and allow my mother to sleep soundly at night that when I get the flu, the Pap smear, have the unplanned accident, it would be covered and not ruin their retirement with medical costs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kersti Bryan  
New York, NY

Kersti

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Roberta Wheatley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Although I rely on healthcare provided through Medicare Advantage and worked all my life to get to this point. Healthcare is essential to each individual's well being, and we need affordable healthcare for all to have a healthy society. I oppose the bill on the table. People before politics. This is way too important to force through something that will hurt those who use of ACA.

It is time we put people first.  
Roberta Wheatley  
Glen Ellyn, IL [REDACTED]



## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Liz McCabe Park [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony on Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to urge senators to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill currently under consideration. My family relies on the marketplace created by the ACA for our health insurance. Before the ACA there was only one plan available to us, and it was more expensive and covered less. My son, age 21, has ulcerative colitis, and has gone through numerous expensive treatments and three surgeries in the past five years. Without the ACA, our family would have been bankrupted by his disease. We all have pre-existing conditions that would not be covered under Graham-Cassidy, and I believe that the individual insurance market would collapse, so that we couldn't get any insurance at all.

My husband is self-employed, and I am a student. No employer insurance is available to us. Please don't pass this bill.  
-Liz Park  
Portland, ME

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** cheryl beredo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I believe that everyone in the United States should be able to 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,  
Cheryl Beredo  
Ithaca, NY

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kendra Eshleman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy comment

I'm writing to object to the process by which Graham-Cassidy is being rushed to a vote, without public deliberation, and without a full CBO score. Radical changes to one sixth of the US economy should not be made in haste. I call for return to regular order. The ACA can, and should, be improved, but this is not the right way to proceed.

I also oppose the substance of the bill. Removing the individual mandate will inevitably change the composition of the private insurance pool and lead to skyrocketing premiums for people with pre-existing conditions, and/or force them into plans that don't cover essential health benefits, which the bill also permits. This will be a death sentence for my student Rachel, a brilliant scholar who suffers from lupus, recurring kidney disease, and a host of other chronic disabilities. When Rachel's illness makes her unable to work, she loses access to our university's insurance plan, and she has long since passed any lifetime cap on expenses. Thanks to the ACA and Medicaid expansion, affordable coverage is available for her in our state. Please don't remove the supports that make it possible for a person like Rachel to stay alive and keep working.

The ACA can, and should, be improved, but I would like to see a bipartisan effort to emend the law, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kendra Eshleman  
Watertown, MA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Denise [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop this horrendous bill!!!

I am urging you to put a stop to this horrific, devastating lack of healthcare bill. Millions will be adversely impacted in the worst of ways. We must not deny total and complete, reasonable healthcare to ALL Americans and most especially the most vulnerable among us who will suffer the most.

Thank you!

Denise Federoff .  
Tustin, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karleen Jung [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I pastor a small congregation in a rural area in Kentucky. We operate a food pantry that serves approximately 1,100 clients each month. Many of our pantry patrons have serious health issues and have addiction issues that have resulted in much brokenness within their families. Over these past few years, the ACA, through the Medicaid expansion, has provided healthcare for most of them for the first time in decades. They now have access to preventative healthcare that has aided many of them in regulating diabetes and ongoing heart issues, detecting cancer in its early stages, and access to drug and alcohol rehab services. I witnessed several of our patrons experienced restored health.

This proposal—the Graham-Cassidy bill—would gut much of the care they receive through reduced essential benefits, substantial cuts in Medicaid dollars, and the real possibility of coverage refusal due to pre-existing conditions.

Throughout Scripture, we hear God responding to the cries of hurt and pain, seeing the suffering and oppression of God’s people, and grieving over those who are shut out of enjoying the fullness of life that God intends for us because of poverty and injustice that is perpetuated by an oppressive system. I urge you not to pass this bill, but to work together across party lines to achieve a long-lasting healthcare system that particularly seeks to protect those who lack the wealth to have access to good, quality healthcare. Who we are as a nation is shown by how we treat those who are the least among us. This is a clear message throughout Scripture and it is my message to you today.

Let us treat all people with the justice and dignity they deserve and that God demands of us.

Thank you.

Most sincerely,

Rev. Karleen Jung, MDiv, MA  
Grace and Glory Lutheran Church [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karen Lewis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Dangers of the Proposed Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

The proposed "Graham/Cassidy" legislation to overhaul Health Care is a short-sighted stab in the dark. The Senate can do better, and must take time to clearly deliberate and sort out the complex components of how best to foster health for all in America.

In particular, my family is concerned about losing (affordable) coverage for "pre-existing" conditions. In the past, the insurance companies reviewed our applications with inconsistency, causing one daughter to be rated due to strep throat, another to be rated due to bladder infections and dear old mom to be declined due to migraine. Which in itself was enough to cause a headache. We are just one ordinary family.

Those with children who have serious health conditions, or for those who have a cancer diagnosis—it is deplorable that they should also be doing battle with an insurance company about dropped coverage.

I urge you to save the best parts of the Affordable Care Act, and put your brilliant minds together to make the health care system in America the very best it can be.

It is short-sighted to put the burden of delivering health services to the states, which of course would implement inconsistently, perhaps even causing people to need to move to another state to be able to afford coverage and services. Is this what we want in America? To be divided and competitive between states just in order to deliver health care?

"Good enough" is not good enough. Time to deliberate and craft an A+ solution to a decades-old problem. Ask physicians and nurses and first responders what works. Send your staff to volunteer for 24 hours in a clinic/hospital setting and see what new ideas they might come up with.

Thank you for tossing the Graham/Cassidy legislation where it belongs: back to the drawing board.

Do not vote to implement the legislation as written.

Sincerely,  
Karen Lewis

[REDACTED]  
Mom, Teacher, Citizen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michelle Lin-Luse [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Dear Legislators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. My wife is pregnant and we are expecting our first child in March of 2018. I am extremely worried about and oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family's story with pre-existing conditions and affordability has been tough and we are middle-income Americans. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Michelle Lin-Luse

Lilburn, Ga

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Greene [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Both I am my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. While my family has benefited greatly from the unfair advantage afforded to salaried jobs and all currently have access to company plans....we are each vulnerable to economic decimation were we to lose these jobs. One brother has MS, one brother had an unexplained brain bleed resulting in disability, and I have had cancer twice. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Mary Greene

St. Paul, MN



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Bruce Fraidowitz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. My issue is about Medicaid. My daughter Elizabeth is a 41 year old young lady who is developmentally disabled. She cannot care for herself and resides in a group home on Staten Island, NY. She has a very good life there. She also participates in a day program, helping her with physical and day to day experiences. Both the group home and the day program are wonderful for her and both are dependent on Medicaid.

In addition she has Chronic Myeloid Leukemia. This disease is treatable with gleevec, a pill she has to take every day. She has been taking this for four years and is doing very well with it. However, this pill, even in its generic form which she is now taking costs over \$60,000 a year. This medication is what keeps her alive. In other words, it is Medicaid that keeps her alive.

Making Medicaid a block grant and severely cutting it will be disastrous for Elizabeth, potentially involving her ability to remain in her group home or possibly denying her the medication she needs to stay alive.

Please reject this bill.

Bruce Fraidowitz

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
New York, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pam Fitch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments; scdd@scdd.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Why, Medicaid Matters to Me

*To Senators,*

*Our adult son Walter like thousands of developmentally disabled adults require care givers, doctors and endless hours of attention due to their emotional and physical struggle. Please DO NOT CUT THEIR benefits as it is a BASIC NECESSITY to their health, welfare and life.*

*IDD can impact persons at any time and at any age. PLEASE put yourself in their shoes --- it takes a village to Help them in their Life.*

*PLEASE ---we must continue to ensure that every person with IDD has comprehensive affordable, quality, non-discriminatory coverage and benefits for their healthcare and long-term supports to work and live in the community.*

*THANK YOU FOR A CARING HEART!*

*Sincerely,*

*Pamela & Richard Fitch*  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jodie Hulden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jodie Hulden  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

San Diego, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Andrew White [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy; Strengthen ACA instead!

Greetings,

Thank you for taking the time to register comments from the public on this important issue.

I wish to register my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill, and instead encourage representatives in the House and Senate to craft legislation that will strengthen the Affordable Care Act, stabilize insurance markets, and eventually make health insurance more accessible and affordable for all Americans.

Yesterday, a friend had to take her husband back to the hospital for emergency surgery due to an infection. This emergency procedure will be paid for by their insurance -- insurance that was only made possible and affordable because of the ACA. Repealing the ACA would make it possible for insurance companies to refuse to pay for this coverage, as it could qualify as a pre-existing condition. This couple and their children would be literally bankrupted by the associated medical costs. The ACA is making it possible for this family to undergo emergency surgery to save the young man's life WITHOUT worrying about bankruptcy. It's as simple as that.

Thank you again for your time and efforts. Please vote AGAINST Graham-Cassidy and SUPPORT efforts by Senators Alexander and Murray to forge a bipartisan solution.

Sincerely,

Andrew White  
[REDACTED]

Evanston, IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deirdre Aherne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not bring the Graham-Cassidy up for a vote

I am a retiree and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare which I am lucky to have due to my marriage. My best friend is not so lucky: She relies on medicare and she has a disabled adult daughter who relies on medicaid. The whole family is in turmoil and fear of how they will cope if this bill goes through. 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.

Please put partisan politics aside and act instead from a position of compassion for the least fortunate Americans.

“Compassion is the basis of morality.”  
— Arthur Schopenhauer

Sincerely,

Deirdre Aherne

NYC, NY 10027

Dee Aherne  
@DeeNYC

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anna B <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family & I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. A family member got cancer a few years back and was saved by the ACA, since he could not be kicked off of insurance because of pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Anna Brunt

Santa Fe, NM

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Judith Shotwell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Against Graham-Cassidy

Dear Well-insured Senators:

My family relies on quality affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I are both seniors and our parents are still living in their 90's. Having affordable healthcare is crucial to those of us living on restricted incomes. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Judith Shotwell

El Rito, NM [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** dante schneider [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

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. Don't take healthcare away from millions of good, decent Americans for the sake of spiting a former president.

Sincerely, Dante Schneider

Boise, Idaho



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ilene harrington <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

ilene harrington

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Kailua Kona, Hawaii [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Meryl Fordin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have serious concerns about care for pre-existing conditions, insurance affordability, and my and my daughter's health needs as women. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Meryl Fordin  
Mineola, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debbie Pruitt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA - Please save it!

The ACA provides much-needed coverage for my family. I have several pre-existing conditions that would automatically either eliminate the possibility of coverage in the private market or make the coverage cost-prohibitive. Unless and until you can propose a plan that is comprehensive, affordable & fully-vetted, leave the current plan alone.

Debbie P  
Winston-Salem, NC

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jeff Hudec <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Jeff Hudec

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Chicago, Illinois [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Paige McCarthy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham Plan

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Paige McCarthy. I am a Nurse Practitioner at Goodwin Community Health Center in Somersworth, NH. I would like to voice my concerns with the Cassidy-Graham Plan.

The changes purposed would greatly decrease access to care for the majority of my patients served not only for acute health issues but preventative services as well. Additionally, our community and state would be severely impacted in a negative way by cutting funding for SUD.

As someone who has lost two immediate family members to opioid overdoses, I beg for you to reconsider this plan. Each and every day I am presented with heart wrenching stories from patients and family members affected by the opioid epidemic in my area. I am proud to provide help to those patients and the whole reason I go back to my job day after day is so I can help other people. We shouldn't take the only life line away that these patients have. They depend on us to live. They depend on us to help them when no one else could. If you could sit in my seat for even one day and listen to these stories, watch them beg for help, break down and cry, and then be able to provide them with the help needed to survive another day, you would understand my request. The gift of recovery is amazing and does happen.

Who are we to deny patients healthcare based on a disease? Shouldn't we be helping them and not hurting them? Should we turn our back on patients that suffer? Not only from SUD but other diseases as well. Healthcare is not a factory. It is an art. An art of healing and helping and compassion. I understand the current system we have is not perfect but the proposed plan is not sufficient enough to work in the world we live in today. Please consider my request.

Sincerely,  
Paige McCarthy, MSN, APRN, NP-C  
Somersworth, NH  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jim Barnett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Questions from an article from the Milwaukee WI newspaper.  
**Attachments:** FullSizeRender.jpg; ATT00001.txt

My letter to Ron Johnson Senator (R).  
Sounds like more lies.....

Jim Barnett, M.D., F.A.A.D.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sasha Kay [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fwd: I oppose Graham-Cassidy!

(I realized after I sent this the first time that I had the tax break amount for the medical device manufacturers wrong. It should have been \$20 *billion*, not million.)

Dear Senators of the Senate Finance Committee,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, for several reasons:

1. It's not really a health care bill. It's a tax cut bill. Among the beneficiaries are medical device manufacturers, many of whom are tax cheats who offshore their profits. They would receive a \$20 billion tax break. This idea of giving tax breaks to corporations to stimulate the economy and create jobs simply doesn't work. Exhibit A: Kansas.
2. The whole process of passing this bill violates regular order. It's too secretive and too rushed. There won't be a CBO score by next week, when the vote is supposed to take place. Yours is only the second hearing that's been scheduled, on a bill that affects one-sixth of this nation's economy. (The only other hearing I'm aware of was set to take place in the Homeland Security Committee, which has absolutely nothing to do with health care.) Finally, it's been reported that Republicans have set aside a whopping *90 seconds* of debate before voting on this bill. You can't even cook a burrito in the microwave in 90 seconds! This whole process seems designed to keep both Senators and the public in the dark about what's in the bill.
3. This bill is not "moderate" in any way. It's worse than all the other replacement bills combined. In spite of the secrecy surrounding it, we know it's much like the other replacement plans that were voted down: millions are expected to lose coverage, and everyone stands to lose essential health benefits and pre-existing protections; Medicaid would face steep cuts, forcing states to assume crippling health care costs. But what makes this bill even worse is that it would actually punish states that expanded Medicaid and reward those that didn't.
4. Forget about fixing everything in a conference committee. Show me one example of a committee starting off with the legislative equivalent of cattle dung, and coming up with anything *remotely* smelling like a rose! Bill-Cassidy is an inherently horrible bill, and no amount of tinkering is going to fix it.
5. The Alexander-Murray bipartisan committee's efforts on healthcare reform have been undermined by the desire of one political party to hold onto power. Republicans really don't care what happens to me, or to their base, just so long as they get to rule. That's my takeaway from all this.

On a personal note: I am one of millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions. Mine are hereditary, and lucky for me, they aren't life-threatening. I say "lucky" because in the bad old days, insurance companies would deny me coverage for them. No matter how much I paid, I couldn't get coverage. Now, if insurance companies were willing to deny me coverage for relatively mild conditions, just imagine how hard it must have been for those with *serious* conditions: cancer, diabetes, muscular dystrophy, congenital heart defect, etc. The bottom line: some people are only alive today because the ACA forbids insurance companies from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing. Insurance companies *do not care* about people; they care about making money. If they're allowed to drop coverage again, they'll do it in a heartbeat. Bill-Cassidy lets them do it.

Sincerely,  
Sasha Kay





## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Richard Bower <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**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.

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

Richard Bower  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Costa Mesa, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Vig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Healthcare Bill!

To Whom It May Concern:

We are the richest nation on Earth and we need to work very hard together to repair the Affordable Healthcare Act!

When we work together the sky is the limit!

Please Govern with care and leave the Egos out of it.

Please vote NO on the Graham Healthcare Bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane R. Vig

Boyceville, WI

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Bennett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act Testimony

Dear Senators,

My husband and I and our family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. For this reason I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Before the ACA was passed, my children were dropped from our health insurance coverage through our employers at a very vulnerable time in their lives-fresh out of school at 21 and looking for employment, or dropped from our coverage because they were no longer in school. It was impossible to find interim health insurance for them because of minor pre-existing conditions-acne, treatment for hyperhydrosis, counseling services for mental health needs....any excuse to deny coverage for reasonable health concerns was all the insurance companies needed.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.  
Please demonstrate to our country that our Congress can work together for the benefit of the citizens who elected you to office.

Sincerely,

Diane Bennett  
Yucaipa, CA

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Caroline DeLuca [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing the GRAHAM-CASSIDY healthcare bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have had preexisting conditions of anxiety, depression, and chronic migraines, and I would be unable to access the healthcare I need for these and other health issues without insurance, even though these are preexisting conditions. Furthermore, I rely on insurance to help me access birth control, which prevents my need for abortion services. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Caroline DeLuca  
Southampton, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Natasha McMann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Action: Submit public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

To Whom It May Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable health insurance. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy repeal bill. My story follows, please read.

I tried to purchase health insurance three times between 2007-2009. I was making about \$1000/month during that time. I was denied all three times for the affordable health insurance because of pre-existing conditions which at the time were allergies, depression, and a neck injury from a car wreck. If I wanted insurance, it would cost me around \$265 for the state program simply because I was a woman in child bearing range but if I wanted the coverage that I had under my dad it would cost \$400/month for the premium alone. I finally gave up and had to rely on charity care (this actually costs the average person in the long run because hospitals have to raise their costs to cover those who can't afford it). I developed ulcerative colitis in 2013. Instead of being able to be diagnosed within a month, it took six months because I had to wait. Then I had to wait to get help for the prescriptions because the medicine costs \$700-1000/month. If the government didn't interfere and tell insurance companies that they had to offer me affordable care than I would be in deep trouble. Even with insurance now, I spend about 10% of my income on doctor's visits, medicines, and other medical supplies. I would gladly pay 10% tax if that meant I could have the care I needed and it was guaranteed to others as well. Also, my husband was born with spina bifida. A condition that has many health effects for life. We moved to TN last year and he lost his medicaid. I can't afford to pay a premium for him so he now has a wound that is not getting the medical attention that it needs, his wheelchair is falling apart, and his health is declining simply because he can't get Medicaid. We don't make much at all. We are barely above the poverty level. It would take one whole month's salary for us to buy a new wheelchair. So I should have to decide between paying rent and other necessary bills or getting something that my husband desperately needs. If that doesn't depict how messed up this country's healthcare system is than I don't know what will. I can't teach you compassion but I wish you could "walk a mile in my shoes" before you vote. This bill would devastate my family financially.

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

Sincerely,  
Natasha McMann  
Nashville, TN

--  
Natasha McMann  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Fisk-Vanderbilt Master's-to-PhD Bridge Program  
[natasha.mcmann@gmail.com](mailto:natasha.mcmann@gmail.com)

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** LAURA J GRAF [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** McNiece, Jessica (Durbin); Kanner, Max (Durbin); Villanueva, Josie (Duckworth)  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Please enter this into the comment record for the upcoming Senate Finance Committee Meeting.

If Graham-Cassidy passes, more than 654,000 Illinoisans will lose coverage for medical expenses. Two-thirds of those losing coverage are currently covered by Medicaid. This is unacceptably cruel.

My parents worked hard all their lives. My father served in World War II. Afterward, he worked for 32 years for a small, privately held company before becoming disabled at the age of 64. My mother was a registered nurse. Together, they raised five children in a modest three-bedroom house and sent us all to college. They never had much in the way of savings. For most of their lives, they didn't own a car.

After my father died at the age of 80, my mother sold their house for \$153,000. She lived five years in a relatively inexpensive assisted living facility, but then dementia required her to move to a skilled care nursing home. Within a short time, what remained from the proceeds of the house sale were exhausted. She lived to the age of 91, spending her last seven years at the nursing home. Medicaid paid for her care beyond what her Social Security check covered. Where could she have gone if she hadn't had Medicaid to pay for her care? Even if her children had not all been employed, it would have been dangerous for her to live in one of our homes. We don't have buzzer alarms on our doors and windows. None of us could have remained awake 24/7 to ensure that she was safe. All but one of us live in a two-story house.

I know an 8-year old boy with autism. His medical care is provided by Medicaid. His mother's job does not pay enough for her to afford to cover him. Without Medicaid, who would pay for his medications and therapy? No one. The medications keep him under control, able to attend school, and participate in Scouts. We all hope that he will be able to be a functional, contributing member of society when he is an adult. That will not be possible if he doesn't receive the necessary medications and services now.

The Graham-Cassidy bill does not cover pre-existing conditions. As I reviewed the list of conditions that would not be covered, I realized I have eight such conditions. At the moment, I am covered by my former employer's retiree medical plan which costs me nearly \$14,000 a year - one-third of my income. I look forward to going on Medicare as my older friends tell me my monthly outlay will be much less.

My friend's two-year-old boy was born with a heart defect that required immediate surgery and will require more in the future. Should his father lose the job that provides the family's medical insurance and decide to freelance, they would not be able to find coverage for their son. It is wrong to condemn this family to having to choose between bankruptcy and the health of their son.

I am grateful that I will avoid having to be covered by a Graham-Cassidy health plan. No one should have to be subjected to its extreme restrictions. I encourage you to vote against advancing it. Our country is better at caring about our citizens than what the Graham-Cassidy bill would allow.

Sincerely,

Laura J. Graf, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]  
St. Charles IL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karen Reiter <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**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.

Karen Reiter

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
FALLBROOK, California [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Sarah Harvey <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**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.

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Sarah Harvey

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Oakland, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karla Johnston [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments in opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

We are retirees who worked and taught at universities during our careers. Between the two of us, we have five college degrees. Our adult children are college graduates, as well. Our son and his wife work full-time professional jobs. Our daughter is finishing up her Master's degree and works three part time jobs, none of which offer health insurance benefits.

We are not poor nor disabled. Yet WE ALL RELY ON AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE!!!!

Our stories are not as dramatic as many other Americans whose lives have quite literally been saved by the ACA but we have been positively affected by the legislation since its enactment. The most helpful aspect of the ACA for us presently, aside from the requirement insurance policies cover pre-existing conditions without penalty, is that when our 27 year old daughter (the one with 3 jobs) aged off our health insurance policy, she was able to enroll in an affordable plan on the exchange. In 2015 when she was still on our plan she had surgery to remove a huge (largest the good doctors had ever seen in a woman her age) fibroid tumor from her uterus. It was benign, but during her follow up exam last year, she learned that there are two more growing rapidly, so she will likely need surgery again in the near future. Even with insurance, the cost of this surgery is substantial relative to our income, as are the premiums we are paying.

I cannot imagine how we will be able to afford rising premiums (no pay raises in the future for us, may even lose cost of living increases because of our state government's mismanagement of our pension funds) and/or the possibility that our state may opt out of requiring insurers to cover pre-existing conditions. I don't know how our son and daughter-in-law will be able to deal with rising premium costs ... and they both have preexisting conditions that require ongoing medical treatment. I don't know how our daughter will be able to afford insurance ... or if her medical expenses in the case of further treatment will be covered because she, too, has a preexisting condition.

And the kicker is that as bad as this will be for us, a well educated, retired/employed, relatively healthy (so far, partly because we have been able to go to the doctor/pharmacist when necessary) family. What about the millions of families who are not so?!!

We are extremely worried for them, for us, and for the rest of the 99%. Because of this, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We implore the powers that be in Congress to STOP trying to repeal the ACA and get to work in a bipartisan effort to IMPROVE IT!!

Sincerely,

Karla and Tim Johnston  
Murray KY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Steve Dzieglewcz [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.

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Steve Dzieglewcz  
[REDACTED]

IL

SOUTH ELGIN, Illinois [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Emily Whetsel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Every developed country in the world has better healthcare than the U.S. The perception of American exceptionalism doesn't match healthcare outcomes. Independent research shows that country after country does better than us at not only providing care, but at providing good care at lower cost.

Insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, and even physicians have their reasons for wanting to keep a bloated, unfair system. Insurance companies are pulling out of exchanges because they haven't been able to merge into a monopoly. Medicare and Medicaid aren't accepted by all providers; even Medicare Advantage plans aren't accepted once providers reach their quota of patients. People are being pressured into unnecessary procedures, even surgeries, because of fee-for-service reimbursement.

But as unfair as it is for people with insurance, it's horrible for people without it. People go to free medical clinics, such as Remote Area Medical, which provides medical and dental coverage if you can wait for months and then wait hours in line. If you need emergency care without insurance, the emergency room will treat you, but you'll be stuck with a bill that would be far smaller or non-existent if you'd had proper preventive care. Hospitals and eventually taxpayers pay for care when people don't pay bills. Some people are so afraid of huge medical bills, they die rather than asking for help.

Single-payer would address many of these problems that ensure the U.S. lags behind in clinical outcomes while healthcare spending grows uncontrollably. But until we finally accept that our system is bad for patients and the economy, we need to expand Medicaid. A true expansion, not a piecemeal plan that allows states to opt out or punishes states that expanded when they had a chance. We need to address the unfair practices of insurance coverage companies; we definitely shouldn't let them become a monopoly and grow even more powerful. We need to encourage preventive care, which hasn't happened when providers get paid for tests and procedures that provide noise instead of useful information and don't improve patient health. We need to end price-gouging by pharmaceutical companies and insurance companies refusing to cover treatment that actually works.

Until somebody, somewhere, in any party, comes up with a plan that provides coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, people with disabilities, poor people, young, old, every kind of people, take these unethical, Obama-hating, wealth-favoring pieces of garbage off the table. The GOP won't listen to experts on economics, healthcare, statistics, or public policy. It won't listen to impassioned pleas by activists in wheelchairs or parents of children with pre-existing conditions. The GOP has to be convinced over and over that though the ACA has faced obstacles by the wealthy and cruel (there's quite a bit of overlap between those groups), it has done far more good than harm. People would die if the ACA was repealed. Not in some ill-conceived war. Not in an act of terrorism. People in this country would die of lack of healthcare if the ACA was repealed.

I don't think any of the repeal-and-replace crowd care about that. I don't kid myself that my elected officials care about me. I can't further their agendas, or increase their wealth. But I don't think the politicians clamoring to repeal and replace care that their actions would hurt and kill people. They've been told in no uncertain terms that no reputable organization or stakeholder supports killing Obamacare. Maybe some constituents want it, but constituents wanting something harmful shouldn't drive policy that affects millions directly and all of us indirectly. A rushed, pathetic bill based on anti-Obama spite won't help any of the myriad problems with U.S. healthcare. You people are supposed to be public servants. Act like it.

Emily Whetsel  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Susan Wood <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Susan Wood

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Janesville, WI, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Babbitt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare--no to 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 Babbitt

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Geoffrey Peckover <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

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Geoffrey Peckover

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Brooklyn, New York [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathryn Di Stefano <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

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Kathryn Di Stefano

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Upland, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Juliann Rule <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Juliann Rule

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Avon, Minneso [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carr, Lisa Sibert, M.D. [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren)

*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, and who has spent the last 21 years of my life working in a community that serves the many of our most vulnerable. 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.*

Thank you for your time and help

Lisa Carr MD  
MGH Chelsea Healthcare Center

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

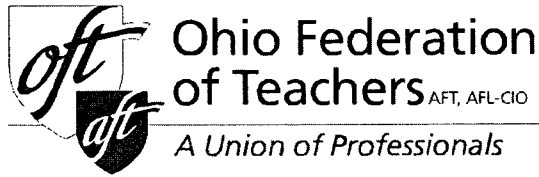
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**From:** Meredith Buck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing Graham-Cassidy

Aloha,

Nearly my entire community relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Though there are countless stories to tell regarding the importance of the ACA, the one I would like to focus on is pre-existing conditions. The fact that rape, sexual assault, domestic abuse, c-sections, pregnancy, and post-partum depression would be considered "pre-existing conditions" under the proposed new health care reform.. is disturbed and disturbing. This says that women's bodies and lives don't matter, and that they don't deserve affordable health. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Meredith Buck  
Kailua Kona, Hawai'i



September 22, 2017

The Honorable Robert Portman

Columbus, Oh

Dear Senator Portman:

I am writing out of concern that the Graham-Cassidy bill will cut Medicaid funds, hurt Ohio's ability to provide opioid services, adversely impact our Medicaid managed care services, and negatively impact school-based health services for children. We urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

In July, you issued a press release saying that you would work for a bi-partisan commonsense approach. The release said:

"We can do better, and I'm not giving up. I will continue working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on common-sense solutions on behalf of Ohio families who are suffering under the failed status quo. I hope the Senate Finance Committee, on which I serve, will announce a series of health care hearings.

"People are rightly frustrated on both sides of the aisle. We must come together as an institution and do better for Ohioans—and all Americans."

This bill is not better. Now is not the time for the Senate Health Committee to abandon the bi-partisan effort to reduce insurance costs. We ask you to be true to what you said YOU would do, which is seek a bi-partisan solutions that are helpful to the citizens of Ohio. Also, we want you to heed the words of Governor Kasich and vote against this bill.

We are concerned that action on this bill is motivated by politics and not current realities. The following also concerns us:

1. The majority of Americans now support and depend on the benefits provided by the ACA.
2. We want continued protection against lifetime caps, pre-existing conditions, funding for opioid treatment not on a state by state basic but everywhere.
3. We want the regular order that Senator McCain spoke about not one hearing that is contrived to check off a box. We are also concerned that a bi-partisan effort to

help reduce insurance costs was ended in order to force you and your colleagues to vote on this bill.

4. Ohio will lose billions of dollars and these funds will go to other states.

Our teachers across the state see the effects of opioid addiction on children and their families. Mental health care available through the ACA has helped many Ohioans receive treatment - this bill will hurt Ohio's efforts to curb the opioid crisis for our citizens. I would hope that you would vote against eliminating access to this critical care. In fact, many consumer health care organizations oppose Graham-Cassidy. Even a large insurance company, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, opposes this bill.

Here are some of the organizations and businesses that oppose the bill - please join them:

- American Hospital Association
- American Medical Association
- American College of Physicians
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association
- American Lung Association
- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Arthritis Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Children's Hospital Association
- March of Dimes
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- National Organization for Rare Disorders

The Ohio Federation of Teachers urges you to vote against Graham-Cassidy and work on a bipartisan effort that sustains health care for Ohio's vulnerable children, families and seniors who need care in all parts of the state. We will be watching carefully how you vote on this bill.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cropper, President  
Ohio Federation of Teachers

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandy Gay [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I would like to inform the Senate that I have worked with senior citizens for 32 years. As the Administrator of a retirement community I have been afforded the opportunity to care for our adult senior citizens including those residing on our grounds independently, those who required assisted living accommodations and those who needed skilled and long term nursing care. I have walked along the side of literally hundreds of senior residents including my own mother, witnessing the physical and mental health decline that accompanies the path of aging. Many of these seniors have exhausted their resources paying for the cost of their care and services they required as their bodies and minds slowly deteriorated. Fortunately today when their resources dwindle to nothing, they can apply for Medicaid and continue to remain at the retirement community that they considered their home surrounded by caregivers who they often recognize even as their loved ones slip from their memory.

Please do not replace our current healthcare with Graham-Cassidy which would eliminate 9% of the State Of Ohio's Medicaid resources to care for our lower income and/or no income senior citizens. Please revere our future senior citizens who may be your grandparents or your great-grandparents. They have survived wars, depressions and recessions, but in the future they may not survive under Graham-Cassidy Healthcare.

Sincerely,

*Sandra K. Gay, LNHA*  
*Administrator*

Western Hills Retirement Village  
Western Hills Nursing & Rehab Center  
[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

A CaringPlace Facility      Rated Five Stars by CMS & Top 100 by US News for the past 6 years.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dr. Alice Becton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy NO

Senators,

I strongly oppose this proposal. This is a political instrument and not policy to help the American people. All these Senators should be ashamed. This is a ragged document with unauditible consequences .

A Becton

Gahanna, OH

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** loriclark7109 <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Repeal Bill

Raising premiums on citizens with pre-existing conditions is not acceptable. Nor is pushing this bill through in order to get money from the Koch Brothers.

A NO vote is the only acceptable vote on the Graham/ Cassidy repeal bill.

- Lori Clark  
Hilliard, Ohio

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S7.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carolyn Slack [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

This bill is not not good for many people (11 million low income adults) including those on Medicaid who have obtained coverage through expansions; moderate income people who benefit from premium subsidies; individuals with pre existing medical conditions; and the many women who depend on Planned Parenthood for not only contraceptive care, but life saving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

This ill conceived bill is being rushed forward without CBO analyses and restricted hearings.

Vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy bill.  
Support marketplace stabilization.  
Thank you

Carolyn Slack RN, Ohio  
Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jackie Campbell Brumley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

For months I have called and written my senators about these appalling and heartless health care bills proposed by Republican senators. The Graham-Cassidy Bill is the latest to completely ignore the will and needs of the people in favor of those who seek to profit from health care. It is time to face facts. Health care should never be a bargaining chip. It is long past time to ignore what every other first world country has discovered. We need single payer health care. The millions of dollars spent on insurance and pharmaceuticals are not providing even adequate health care to US citizens. They are merely wasteful. Last year I had a knee replacement that cost \$46,000 for one night in the hospital (exclusive of surgeon fees and physical therapy). This makes no sense. The same procedure in Spain costs \$6-7,000. The ACA afforded real health care to many Americans for the first time. Many of the homeless individuals I work with had real access to health care for the first time. They were able to get mental health medication, colonoscopies, Pap smears, joint replacements, diabetes supplies, foot care, smoking cessation products and flu shots. For them, it was a miracle that led to changes in their lives for the better. That is the right thing to do. There is no excuse for American citizens to suffer from lack of access to health care. Please give up this reckless effort to abolish "Obamacare" by taking the time and energy wasted in these battles and putting it toward creating a real and lasting answer to the healthcare problems we have.

Jackie Campbell Brumley, M.P.H.

[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah A. Jonaus [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 1:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** All Americans deserve health care

Dear members of the Finance Committee,

I am a practicing primary care physician and educator in central Ohio and a member of the Physicians Action Network, a non partisan group that promotes improved health for our citizens. The Graham Cassidy bill puts thousands of Ohioans and millions of Americans at risk for losing their health care. As representatives of the good people of this country, it is your responsibility to promote bills that improve the health and welfare of our citizens. The Graham Cassidy bill does just the opposite.

Please vote NO to the Graham Cassidy bill so that my patients and your countrymen can continue to receive the health care that they deserve.

With warmest regards and thanks for all that you do, Sarah Jonaus MD [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** kristin foley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 1:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy  
**Attachments:** Ohio Medicaid Assessment.pdf

Dear Senators,

I am a physician and a resident of Ohio. Under the Affordable Care Act, nearly 1 million Ohioans gained health insurance, including 700,000 through Medicaid Expansion. The Ohio Department of Medicaid studied the Medicaid recipients and issued a report in January, which I have attached. The Executive Summary includes the following findings, among others:

- enrollees overwhelmingly reported that **access to medical care had become easier** since enrolling in Medicaid—these gains were largest for those who were previously uninsured.
- **Emergency department use, which is often a very costly form of care, decreased for Group VIII enrollees.** Survey results and medical records analyses showed that Group VIII participants were better integrated into the health care system, increasingly connecting to a usual and appropriate source of health care.
- Nearly half of Group VIII enrollees (47.7%) reported **improvement in their overall health status** since enrolling in Medicaid, compared to 3.5% who said their health had worsened.
- Since enrollment in Medicaid, 44.0% of Group VIII enrollees reported **better access to mental health services.**
- Most study participants reported that enrollment in Medicaid made it **easier to work and to seek work.** Three-quarters of the Group VIII enrollees (74.8%) who were unemployed but looking for work reported that Medicaid enrollment made it easier to seek employment. For those who were currently employed, 52.1% reported that Medicaid enrollment made it easier to continue working.
- Group VIII enrollees were more than twice as likely to report **improvements in their financial situation** rather than declines in financial well-being. In particular, Medicaid enrollment enabled participants to meet other basic needs. More than half of Group VIII enrollees (58.6%) reported that it was now easier to buy food, 48.1% stated that it was easier to pay their rent or mortgage, and 43.6% said it was easier to pay off other debts.

The Affordable Care Act has brought health improvements and stability to the lives of Ohio's poorest citizens. Graham-Cassidy cuts Medicaid dramatically and will undermine these gains.

Please vote NO on this terrible bill.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristin M Foley

[REDACTED]  
Bexley, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richardson David [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear senators,

Please vote NO of Graham - Cassidy. This bill will not help, and has not been done with transparency and with no full CBO score, we will not know what the total costs and benefits will be. Please vote NO.

Dave Richardson

[REDACTED]  
Dublin, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Bradford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham

I am writing to voice my concern regarding the Cassidy-Graham repeal amendment. This legislation will hurt 32 million people not to mention cutting the Medicaid funding for the most vulnerable among us. This legislation must not pass.

Cassidy-Graham also penalizes those states who expanded their Medicaid coverage under the ACA. It also rewards those states who did not expand. But in the end, it is the people who lose in this scenario. We must not let our healthcare be hijacked.

I am a disabled American, I worked my entire life from the time I was 13 until I became disabled at 51. My granddaughter is an ATRT rare cancer survivor and has continuing health issues because of her radiation and chemo treatments. She is on Medicaid and considered disabled.

Seniors and poor people will suffer the most under this debacle. The future of our people is in jeopardy. I am firmly against this bill. It must NOT be allowed to become law.

Thank you for your time.

Susan Bradford  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Loveland, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laurie Crowther [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Compassion and Common Sense?

I urge you to reject Graham Cassidy. Pushing this bill through without real debate and without a full CBC report defies common sense. The vast majority of health care professionals and doctors warn that passage of this bill will be devastating for our most vulnerable population. You were all elected to represent the People, and we, the People reject this bill overwhelmingly. I urge you to do the same.

Laurine Crowther  
[REDACTED]  
Worthington, OH [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dennis Harwood [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 1:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

The Graham Cassidy Bill is a foul joke upon Americans. No one who has the best interests of the American people could truly say this is for the greatest good. Stop the sellout of government control to the highest donor. Your job is to govern, do it wisely and compassionately.

Dennis J. Harwood  
Ohio Voter

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** litlgrey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I owe my survival to the Medicaid Expansion in Ohio

At a time when the most hardcore ideological factions on the American right have been working to solidify their control over our politics here in the State of Ohio, people like me face completely unnecessary and punishing attacks on our access to healthcare services.

There is no need for this. Our Republican Governor John Kasich, put his political future in grave peril by courageously standing up time and again for the Medicaid Expansion of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 exactly because he knew that regardless of politics, it would keep people both alive, and out of medical bankruptcy. People like me, who are now able to return to the workforce because my surgical and prescription costs were 100% covered without the kinds of shocking limitations which would occur if Medicaid were reduced to cost-blind block grants, and if lifetime coverage caps were to be introduced. Such limitations fly blatantly in the face of the supposed "culture of life" agenda which is so constantly touted by our political elites both in Ohio and in Washington, DC.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill has not been scored by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office; Health Care leaders across the country stand opposed to it; White House spokesmen have stated that the Administration itself can not state what the effects of the Bill might be.

What this would introduce is a massive and destabilizing uncertainty, of a kind which would almost assuredly spearhead immense spikes in the costs of both health care and insurance premiums which depend upon relative stability in its actuarial risk pools; and would take our country back decades in its commitment to providing health security for all Americans. It is the polar opposite of what is needed, and I urge our entire Congress to stand up in courageous opposition to this mean-spirited attack on the very health of our Republic.

Carl Howard  
Columbus, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Liner, Sharon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Committee on Finance:

I am a family medicine physician providing care to women and men in Ohio, primarily to lower income and medicaid patients. 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.

The Affordable Care Act ensures nearly universal health insurance coverage and guarantees access to critical reproductive health services such as well-woman visits, contraception without cost-sharing, and maternity care. Since its passage, I have seen this legislation benefit countless patients. The repeated attempts to repeal the ACA not only demonstrate a lack of understanding of how my patients have benefitted from the ACA, but would actually put many of my patients in a much worse position than before the ACA was passed. Since the ACA, I no longer see such numbers of patients who cannot access care for their high blood pressure or diabetes and are now much better able to care for their health and access any care that is needed.

As a reproductive health care professional, I see the benefits of the Affordable Care Act every day in my practice. 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,

**Sharon Liner, MD**  
**Director of Surgical Services**  
Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region

[REDACTED]

TOP  
WORK  
PLACES



*Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region is proud to be recognized as an Enquirer Media Top Workplace in 2016.*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gayle Garrison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fw: Graham Cassidy

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**From:** Gayle Garrison  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments@finance.senate.voc  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Good Afternoon,

After a week of trying to reach my Senator, Rob Portman of Ohio, (an act in futility, I assure you) I am reaching out to the Senate Finance Committee to express my grave concerns to even allowing a hearing on this disaster of a bill. I, along with my spouse, my siblings and my 26 year old niece, have a fairly serious pre-existing condition and am so grateful that the ACA protects me and my loved ones. I am also grateful for the Medicaid expansion that covers many that are not as financially sound and my family. Do we currently pay high premiums, yes, but we paid high premiums in the past with our major health issues being excluded. Does the ACA have aspects that can be improved? Absolutely, but nothing in Graham Cassidy makes any improvement to the ACA. It instead, will push many Americans, myself included, to financial and health disaster.

At the very least, Graham Cassidy should be subjected to rigorous, public hearings with a CBO review.

Thank you,

Gayle Garrison  
Garrison Farm LLC  
Wilmington, Ohio  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Deborah Neilly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I am writing to express my extreme concern and disappoint regarding the proposed Graham-Cassidy healthcare legislation. As it stands, any discussion of its efficacy to address our nation's healthcare system on Monday is premature and politically charged, as the CBO has not yet scored the proposed bill.

As an American, I strongly question the premise that our citizens should be provided healthcare dependent upon their specific state regulations. Working in a related healthcare position, I am very familiar with state waivers and how they may, or would be used against the best interest of state citizens.

We are the United States of America, and as such, everyone should expect the same standard of care and coverage no matter where they live. This also applies to the crisis experienced in our rural communities, where the closing of each hospital spells a death knell for the health, financial well being and overall economic viability of the area. How the overall health, or the lack thereof, of our healthcare industry impacts our national economy should be paramount in each Senator's decision. It is evident that it is not a consideration. Every state Medicaid director, AHIP, the AMA, State Governors ( including Republicans) vehemently oppose this bill. And for good reason.

Stop making this a political issue! This bill and the motivation behind it is clear – to quote Senator Graham:

*"You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered, but Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That's pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill."*

Again, as a mature American, I am ashamed of our nation's legislative body that addresses such a serious matter in such a cavalier manner, refusing to develop comprehensive and effective ways to improve our healthcare system. Please address this in an adult manner, befitting the Senate branch of the U.S. government.

Thank you,

Deborah Neilly

Director, Marketing and Communications

Human Arc

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Dotty Carman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill - I AM OPPOSED

I am an Ohio resident. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill for the following reasons:

- the potential loss of protections for people with pre-existing conditions.
- the defunding of Medicaid. This will hurt medically fragile people (including children), veterans, people in nursing homes, people addicted to opioids.
- the defunding of Planned Parenthood. Millions depend on PP for their primary care.
- the elimination of the essential health benefits. Among other things this will lead to higher insurance costs for maternity and pediatric care - THIS IS NOT pro-life.
- it allows lifetime caps. Lifetime cap used to be \$1,000,000. a close friend was in the ICU for 5 weeks and a rehab hospital for 4 weeks, a result of diabetes. the bill? \$1,000,000. He remains medically fragile because of his diabetes. What would someone like him do, faced with a lifetime cap?
- it is estimated that 32 million people will lose their insurance coverage.
- loss of jobs in the healthcare industry.

I realize that some senators say they HAVE TO vote to repeal the ACA because they ran on that promise. How about being big enough to admit that promise was a mistake and would result in untold harm.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Daisy Reish [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; brown@ohiosenate.gov; manning@ohiosenate.gov; Senator Rob Portman  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

My grandson has Asperger's Syndrome a form of Autism under your bill he will never be able to afford health care for the rest of his life.

My stepson was an alcoholic and depressed he now is functioning very well but under the new bill he will not be able to get his medication to stay sober.

My nephew is schizophrenic and is in a nursing home on Medicaid under this bill he will not be able to stay in the nursing home and receive his drugs routinely but able to get a gun. Wish the family luck and anyone else in his way to stay alive.

Daisy Reish

[REDACTED]  
Grafton, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Dotty Carman [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill - I AM OPPOSED

I am an Ohio resident. I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy "healthcare" bill for the following reasons:

- the potential loss of protections for people with pre-existing conditions.
- the defunding of Medicaid. This will hurt medically fragile people (including children), veterans, people in nursing homes, people addicted to opioids.
- the defunding of Planned Parenthood. Millions depend on PP for their primary care.
- the elimination of the essential health benefits. Among other things this will lead to higher insurance costs for maternity and pediatric care - THIS IS NOT pro-life.
- it allows lifetime caps. Lifetime cap used to be \$1,000,000. a close friend was in the ICU for 5 weeks and a rehab hospital for 4 weeks, a result of diabetes. the bill? \$1,000,000. He remains medically fragile because of his diabetes. What would someone like him do, faced with a lifetime cap?
- it is estimated that 92 million people will lose their insurance coverage.
- loss of jobs in the healthcare industry.

I realize that some senators say they HAVE TO vote to repeal the ACA because they ran on that promise. How about being big enough to admit that promise was a mistake and would result in untold harm.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deborah Neilly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I am writing to express my extreme concern and disappoint regarding the proposed Graham-Cassidy healthcare legislation. As it stands, any discussion of its efficacy to address our nation's healthcare system on Monday is premature and politically charged, as the CBO has not yet scored the proposed bill.

As an American, I strongly question the premise that our citizens should be provided healthcare dependent upon their specific state regulations. Working in a related healthcare position, I am very familiar with state waivers and how they may, or would be used against the best interest of state citizens.

We are the United States of America, and as such, everyone should expect the same standard of care and coverage no matter where they live. This also applies to the crisis experienced in our rural communities, where the closing of each hospital spells a death knell for the health, financial well being and overall economic viability of the area. How the overall health, or the lack thereof, of our healthcare industry impacts our national economy should be paramount in each Senator's decision. It is evident that it is not a consideration. Every state Medicaid director, AHIP, the AMA, State Governors ( including Republicans) vehemently oppose this bill. And for good reason.

Stop making this a political issue! This bill and the motivation behind it is clear – to quote Senator Graham:

*"You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered, but Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That's pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill."*

Again, as a mature American, I am ashamed of our nation's legislative body that addresses such a serious matter in such a cavalier manner, refusing to develop comprehensive and effective ways to improve our healthcare system. Please address this in an adult manner, befitting the Senate branch of the U.S. government.

Thank you,

Deborah Neilly

Director, Marketing and Communications

Human Arc

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kevi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 1:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To all United States Senators,

My name is Kevin Filiatraut. I am a 40 year old husband and father of two children (8, 6). I am an assistant county prosecutor in Cleveland, Ohio who prosecutes rapists and murderers but I am more scared of this bill than any defendant I have ever seen in a courtroom.

My wife, Kimberly, is 41 years old and worked at Key Bank for 15 years until they outsourced her job to India in the summer of 2015. Coincidentally that was the same summer when she was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer. Our doctor told us for her cancer the median survival time is 3.5 years but maybe we can get 10 out of it if things go well. If you have not been in the seats we had on July 24, 2015 at Metro Health Medical Center then you have no idea what this does to you, the things you think about, the dreams this changes, the expectations that are altered, or the feeling of despair you have. I would go into it here but I doubt it much matters to anyone seriously considering voting for this bill, so I'll get right to the point.

Her life has been, continues and will be prolonged only through very expensive treatments that must continue as long as she lives. She goes to chemo therapy every three weeks with scans every three months to see if the cancer is being kept at bay. Each chemo treatment is billed at \$25,000, which every three weeks comes to \$433,000 per year. But with everything else (6 prescriptions and scans), the total cost of her survival is about \$700,000 per year.

These costs are manageable because many of these treatment items are considered "essential health benefits" under federal law. And the cap on catastrophic annual costs and the ban on annual and lifetime limits are what allow us to live a relatively normal life while she fights for everyday she can get from this disease.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will send families like mine into medical bankruptcy. It allows states to waive out of EHB's and cuts coverage for people like my wife to levels so low it doesn't meet any reasonable expectation of coverage.

So, you see, while you and I have never met, you scare the hell out of me. Your vote next week on a bill that hadn't seen the light of day, hadn't been scored by the CBO, and hasn't had one real hearing will destroy my family and families like mine. Please, if for no other reason than it is the humane thing to do - please vote no on this bill.

Kevin Filiatraut  
Bay Village, OH  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ann Cotte [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 12:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA Repeal is Systemic Eugenics

Hello, Senators-

I am writing to discuss how the inhumane Graham-Cassidy bill, if implemented, will affect me.

Let me first say the GOP "healthcare" bill proposals have already exacted indelible harm to me and my family.

How am I to quantify this personal damage? How does one quantify the steady erosion of spirit, morale, vigor?

How do I explain that I am dying due to the dismantling of our democracy?

How do I chart the way my life's blood has been drained away with each repeal bill's assault?

I've gone beyond disbelief that our "democracy" can now blithely red-pen away millions of lives in order to make "good" on a morally bankrupt political promise.

My fissured heart has been devalued. My whole, healthy self is being supplanted as surely as the Republican Party is now uprooting the truly good ACA legislation enacted through months of bipartisan compromise.

How do I, one person, one citizen of what had been the greatest country in the world, convey the personal harm ACA repeal does to me? Under the Republican administration, ACA repeal triage has been my death by a thousand cuts.

Do I matter?

I am neither poor nor uneducated, young nor old. My marginalization stems from my gender as a female, my representation in the Democratic Party more than any prejudice determined by my color, religion, sexual preference or tax bracket.

Yes, I and my family are very "average American." My and my husband's working lives in academia and marketing have helped support us to middle class, middle America dream complacency. We've raised to adulthood two educated, civic-minded adults who pay their taxes.

So, after countless hours of calling my members of Congress in Ohio--Republican and Democrat; of reading article after article explaining each appalling iteration of a tax-cut bill disguised as healthcare reform; of seeing endless footage of suffering Americans, thousands without advantages I have been born with, I have reached this conclusion:

I am prepared to die.

I believe in my heart of hearts that this kind of final punctuation is at the black heart of these bills and the entire decaying Republican administration.

How else is one to view endless, sequestered and savage attempts at taking away healthcare, peace of mind for millions. Is Graham-Cassidy one final and mortal jab at ending so many vulnerable lives?

Furthermore I believe There is but one two-faced reason for the bill's proposed implementation of eugenics: Money and power. The ACA repeal is one part of a master plan to help siphon money into the coffers of homegrown and foreign oligarchs: the patrons of many in this Republican-controlled administration.

I am prepared to die.

But I will NOT die in support of bloodied stockpiles of currency for these corrupt empire builders.

I will NOT see my husband's and my scraped-together savings become depleted by my illness or injury. (Raising our two contributor children was costly enough.)

I will NOT see our children resort to juggling their own meager finances to support both themselves and my mortal frame.

I NOT see them or others I love overwhelmed, tortured and tormented trying to pay and pay and pay to my aging body.

I am 57. I will die. Sooner than I wanted. But I will die on my own terms. The only way left after the ACA is repealed.

Ann Cotter  
Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jean Tarr [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Latest health care bill

As an Ohio Republican, I urge you to consider very carefully the remarks of Ohio governor John Kasich. His opposition to this bill reflects my concerns. I agree with Sen. McCain that the way forward has to be a sincere bipartisan effort to find an answer to our health care dilemma. A nation as wealthy as ours can surely guarantee health care for all our citizens. We have already seen the difficulties families encounter when coverage for pre-existing conditions is not guaranteed, and this proposed bill eliminates the ACA's requirements relating to coverage for these conditions. Passing this bill just for the sake of overturning the ACA seems not only foolish and dangerously but also childish.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Beatrice Kaufman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare bill

This bill needs to be voted down.....especially if Drump ends up causing nuclear war with North Korea , as he just explained in his bs meeting in Huntsville Alabama how the number of cancer cases would occur if the bombs are dropped. STOP HIS STUPID BILL!!!!!!

Beatrice Kaufman  
Euclid Ohio

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anna Lurie [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

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, Anna Lurie

Dayton, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** antonia dosik <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA and Graham Cassidy

Repealing the ACA and replacing it with the Graham-Cassidy bill would be a disaster. I sincerely hope that all the Senators will vote their conscience.

Antonia Dosik  
Ohio



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leah Michelle Bogusch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

**I am a community mental health care provider for clients who need affordable healthcare.** Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many of my clients would not be able to afford the mental healthcare that they need if it weren't for Medicaid. Because they have access to affordable mental health care, I am able to provide preventive outpatient services that, in the long run, are more cost-effective than if my clients were to choose to seek emergency care in the event of a crisis. In addition, the services that I provide help my clients to live healthy, more functional lives so that they can be productive members of society. And while these reasons to support affordable mental health care are practical and economical for our communities, there is another reason that Medicaid is important to me as a mental health care provider: affordable mental health care means that people who are suffering can have access to services that can heal their hearts and minds.

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

Sincerely,

Leah Bogusch, M.A.

Bowling Green, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** tom cartwright [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Brown, Senator (Brown); senator\_portman@portman.senate.gov; Tom Cartwright  
**Subject:** Letter against Graham Cassidy for Senate Finance Hearing

I believe the Senate should vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. As discussed further below, the analysis to date from available data shows that this bill is bad for Ohio and the USA. Further, because the bill hasn't gone through a bipartisan process with traditional order and there won't be a CBO score on the bill's impact on coverage and premiums before the vote, a NO vote is consistent with Senator Portman's prior statements regarding these important procedural safeguards. We are disappointed that the Republican support for this unsatisfactory bill seems to have cratered the actual bipartisan healthcare initiative in HELP and may jeopardize the timely funding of the CHIP extension, but remain optimistic that Senator Portman will rise above party politics in reaching his decision on the bill's merits.

We hope that you are aware of the statement issued by the **National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD)** on Thursday. <http://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/351846-medicaid-directors-warn-repeal-bill-would-be-largest-transfer-of-financial> **All 50 state Medicaid Directors made clear their view that the Graham-Cassidy bill will do exactly what Senator Portman said he would not support.** The Medicaid Directors warned that although the bill is intended to afford states flexibility, it doesn't provide the statutory framework and funding necessary to support states taking over the healthcare administration burden. "The scope of this work, and the resources required to support state planning and implementation activities, cannot be overstated," the directors said. "States will need to develop overall strategies, invest in infrastructure development, systems changes, provider and managed care plan contracting, and perform a host of other activities. The vast majority of states will not be able to do so within the two-year timeframe envisioned here, especially considering the apparent lack of federal funding in the bill to support these critical activities." The directors also expressed disapproval of a bill moving forward to a vote without a full CBO score "which should be the bare minimum required for beginning consideration." "With only a few legislative days left for the entire process to conclude, there clearly is not sufficient time for policymakers, Governors, Medicaid Directors, or other critical stakeholders to engage in the thoughtful deliberation necessary to ensure successful long-term reforms," the directors said.

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In addition to the serious implementation concerns raised by NAMD, **non-partisan health care policy company, Avalere, posted its analysis of the bill's financial impact on Wednesday.** <http://avalere.com/expertise/life-sciences/insights/graham-cassidy-heller-johnson-bill-would-reduce-federal-funding-to-states> In sum, they determined that the bill would result in a **reduction in federal funding to states by \$215B through 2026 and more than \$4T over a 20- year period.** This projection doesn't meet the Senator's demand for "stability for Medicaid expansion." **Indeed, Ohio is projected to lose \$9B by 2026 and \$161B by 2036 in federal funding.** The **Kaiser Family Foundation** issued a brief on Thursday with their analysis. <http://www.kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/state-by-state-estimates-of-changes-in-federal-spending-on-health-care-under-the-graham-cassidy-bill/> They **also anticipate significant overall reductions in federal funding from the bill (\$160B from 2020-2026).** **Further, they specifically note that "[i]n some states (Ohio, Maine, and Louisiana), the potential**

**loss of funds under the traditional Medicaid program fully offsets potential gains in federal funds under the block grant, leading to a net loss for the state.”** Indeed, the only analysis that indicates the bill would result in the same or more federal funding for Ohio was conducted by bill sponsor Senator Cassidy himself and it compares current funding under the ACA with future funding under Graham-Cassidy, rather than comparing future ACA funding with future funding under the bill. This analysis is, at best, disingenuous, and appears to be intended to take advantage of the unavailability of an objectively determined complete CBO score to mislead Senators and their constituents.

Losing this funding will have an abrupt and devastating impact on Ohio. As healthcare policy expert **Steven Wagner explained to you during our call, there will be no glide path for the cessation of Medicaid expansion in Ohio as Senator Portman previously desired.** Under Ohio law, if Congress changes the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) as this bill would, then the Ohio legislature would have to vote to reauthorize expansion funds in 2018. Assuming the legislature does not authorize these funds, the **impact of a yes vote from Senator Portman will be felt July 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 when the Medicaid expansion funds would end, and with them the bulk of the monies directed to address Ohio’s opioid addiction epidemic.**

Although the CBO won’t have time to complete a scoring on the bill’s potential impact on coverage numbers, the **USC-Brookings Schaeffer Institute for Health Policy** just issued its own analysis. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/how-will-the-graham-cassidy-proposal-affect-the-number-of-people-with-health-insurance-coverage/>. The numbers are devastating. “[W]e 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.**” Notably, they state that their estimate “likely understates the reductions in insurance coverage that would actually occur under the Graham-Cassidy legislation, particularly toward the beginning and end of the seven-year period, because it does

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not account for the challenges states will face in setting up new programs on the bill’s proposed timeline, the possibility that uncertainty about the program’s future will cause market turmoil toward the end of the seven-year period, or the bill’s Medicaid per capita cap and other non-expansion-related Medicaid provisions.”

Perhaps the most insightful voice on the bill’s potential impact on Ohio is that of our own Republican Governor. As you know, Governor Kasich joined with nine other governors on a letter criticizing the bill both procedurally and substantively. Governor Kasich has also pointed out that this bill will negatively impact our state’s already horrific opioid addiction problem as mentioned above.

In addition to **Governor Kasich**, an ever growing number of other expert voices and stakeholders have come out in **opposition to the bill** including: **AARP** (bill would “increase health care costs for older Americans with an age tax, decrease coverage, and undermine preexisting condition protections” and “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.”); **American Hospital Association** (“We believe that coverage could be at risk for tens of millions of Americans under the Graham-Cassidy proposal. . . The proposal would erode key protections for patients and consumers and does nothing to stabilize the insurance market now or in the long term.”), **American Medical Association** (“Provisions

violate longstanding AMA policy”); **American Psychiatric Association** (This bill harms our most vulnerable patients”); **American Public Health Association** (“Graham-Cassidy would devastate the Medicaid program, increase out-of-pocket costs, and weaken or eliminate protections for people living with preexisting conditions”); **National Institute for Reproductive Health** (“the Graham-Cassidy bill preys on underserved communities . . . a clear and present danger”); **American Academy of Pediatrics** (bill “contains the same dangerous policies as the legislation that failed to advance out of the Senate earlier,” and “goes even further in its attacks on Medicaid.”); **Blue Cross Blue Shield** (“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.”); and **America’s Health Insurance Plans** (bill “would have real consequences on consumers and patients by further destabilizing the individual market”), among many others.

Similar to the data analysis, we are unaware of a single patient advocacy organization or health care group that is supportive of the Graham-Cassidy legislation. (See the attached sheet for additional statistics about the impact of Graham-Cassidy on Ohio and a more complete listing of stakeholder groups who have already spoken out against the bill.)

It seems clear to us that the only right vote for Ohio and our country a no vote on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely  
Thomas Cartwright

[REDACTED]  
Gahanna OH  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Darcy Heller <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:43 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.

Without Medicaid my fiancé would not be here today. At 40 years old he finally qualified for the ACA after having no healthcare for twenty years. His gallbladder was so bad it was gangrenous and had he waited because of no healthcare he would not be here right now.

For myself I recently began experiencing some pretty severe stomach problems and these are exacerbated by lying awake at night wondering if I have something serious, will still have the healthcare I need to fight it?

We talk about how great our country is, but we don't provide healthcare for all of our citizens as many other first world countries do. How can we compete in the world when we don't see all of our citizens as worthy of a basic human right?

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

Sincerely,

Darcy Heller

Newark, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Nemeth [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Concerned

Greetings, Senators,

I am writing to urge you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill, a request that comes from a very personal place. My mother was diagnosed with a lung disease in 2005 and fought insurance companies, panicked about money, and worried about life time caps during the remaining two years of her life. She passed away in 2007. Healthcare, including hers, was a mess before visionaries introduced and passed the Affordable Care Act.

I encourage you to be patient, to talk to your colleagues, to model talking across difference as well as disagreeing without being disagreeable. I'm confident that collectively and collaboratively the senate can strengthen the Affordable Care Act. Of course it can be improved--most human-made things can be. But the Graham-Cassidy bill is not it. It was hastily drafted and won't even have a CBO score. Voting for this bill would be irresponsible and a poor demonstration of democratic dialogue for young citizens.

Sincerely,  
Emily

--  
Emily A. Nemeth, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Education  
Denison University

[REDACTED]  
Granville, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tia Lurie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

My community relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that I work with women who need the ACA to survive. We need to take care of each other. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Tatiana Lurie

Dayton, Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jean Weaver [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 6:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

We rely on quality affordable health care to keep our health. My husband has had cancer twice, and then quad bypass surgery after the chemotherapy. Because of the costs of his insurance, he had to quit his private practice and get a job in a company that had health care benefits because his insurance went from \$1800 a month to not insurable. Please consider the quality of health care benefits YOU have as a result of the kind of insurance we pay for for you, our public servants, and put make the rest of our public servants out of work or in bankruptcy.  
Thank you, Jean Weaver, Dayton, Ohio [REDACTED]



## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Molly Dull [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

Dear members of Congress:

Please know that I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, as do the hundreds of high school and college students I serve and work alongside each day in the nonprofit sector. My parents, retired public school educators, deserve to continue having access to reliable, affordable services to maintain their health as they age - especially after having touched thousands of lives collectively during their long careers of facilitating learning in individual young people and in communities. My oldest sister, a nurse who has visited our nation's capital to advocate for one's right to healthcare works tirelessly in a system that is already broken and inefficient without constraints that come with gutting federal funding, looser restrictions on premium increases, and block grants with a looming expiration date that will bring great instability to one-fifth of the US economy. My middle sister relies on a healthcare system through which she can find coverage despite having contracted a rare eye condition that left her nearly half blind at a young age, something that this legislation cannot guarantee or even encourage. This bill is insufficient in so many ways, for so many people across identities, backgrounds, and disciplines.

Please do not turn your back on those of us working tirelessly to build a society we all want and deserve. There are better, more thoughtful and intentional, more ETHICAL ways to create a bipartisan Congressional Approach to improve the ACA (not repeal it). I implore you to take your roles as public servants seriously by doing so henceforth.

Sincerely,

Molly Dull  
Grafton, OH and Chicago, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Matt & Monte Peterson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** don't repeal the ACA!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare, and I believe all Americans should have access to quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill attempting to repeal the ACA. I do support bi-partisan efforts to IMPROVE the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Monte Peterson  
Hudson, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Steve Clay [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 7:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Medicine in the USA

Dear Finance Committee Senators,

I have been a geriatric and family physician for 30 years. Our current medical system, though perhaps improved under the ACA, is a disaster.

Millions can't afford care and millions work all their lives just to lose everything when they suffer illness later in life. A couple at age 55 can expect to pay \$230,000 out of pocket from age 65 to death for insurance and medical care, despite Medicare.

Practicing as a physician feels like trying to help people while chained down-bound by the insurance companies who restrict and ration healthcare with an eye for profits and little regard for patient welfare. We struggle while everyone conceivable is trying to cash in on medicine. Even many physicians.

So what is to be done? We have the highest quality medicine in the world-but only for the well off.

A single payer system would:

1. Provide healthcare for all.

2. Require increased taxes but would be more than offset by no insurance expenses.
3. Cut red tape expenses-some 20-30% of all costs.
4. Require physicians to take a cut in pay-especially those in procedural specialties. Most physicians would likely accept less pay just to get out of the red tape.
5. Allow medicine to be non-profit again.
6. Allow for a single electronic medical record system fostering full communication of providers.
7. Allow physicians, nurses and medical staff to provide focused care-not rushed and distracted care.
8. Break up the cycle of profit which has consumed medicine.
9. Cut the overall cost of per capital healthcare by a third to one half.

I understand that

members of our congress need contributions to run campaigns. But perhaps this is more important than what the special interests think they have payed for.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steven W. Clay, DO

[REDACTED]  
Batavia, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Pamela Dycks <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**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.

Pamela Dycks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Cleveland Hts, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gary Ginther <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Gary Ginther

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Long Bottom, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Connie Long [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy!

Handing over the health insurance problems to the states to solve is not a solution. The changes to the Affordable Care program stand to be catastrophic for the millions of poor people in Ohio. If it were to proceed we would have 50 new and costly bureaucracies and a dwindling number of dollars to serve our citizens. Vote NO and work on changing what doesn't work in the Affordable Care program rather than throwing the whole thing out. Work smarter!

Connie Johnson Long  
Worthington, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ms. j. cohen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:22 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.

Reflect the values of this once great democracy, reject this slippery greed filled bill, and give hope to millions of Americans that we can stand tall with pride once again. Please do what is right not politically advantageous.

ms. j. cohen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
beachwood, Ohio [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Greer Kabb-Langkamp <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**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.

As a resident of Ohio, one of the states with the largest Opiate problem, this abomination of a law would be devastating to our citizens. PLEASE PROTECT OUR HEALTHCARE. Thank you.

Greer Kabb-Langkamp

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Clinton, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Trevor Martin <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Trevor Martin

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
columbus, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** KATRINA WILLIAMS-HERNDON <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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KATRINA WILLIAMS-HERNDON

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lorain , Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Janna Eling <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee

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

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Janna Eling

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Patricia Wiley <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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Patricia Wiley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kent, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Richard Boyce [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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 Boyce  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carolyn Ahern [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Don't be fools. DO YOUR JOB!

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.

Carolyn Ahern  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Lakewood, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Erik Polk <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Erik Polk

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

LORAIN, Ohio [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Margaret Herten [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Margaret Herten  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Cleveland, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

James Teagle  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Akron, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** brad anderson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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.

brad anderson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

lancaster, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laurie Wolf <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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.

Laurie Wolf

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dayton, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Richard Friesenhengst <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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 Friesenhengst

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Columbus, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ellen Lauber <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:37 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.

Ellen Lauber  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dayton, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** M Clark <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:36 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.

M Clark

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Fred Welty <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Fred Welty

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Chardon, Ohio [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lee Alban <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

No. No. No. Take a page out of the Republican play book. Just say "no" Trumpcare. 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.

Lee Alban

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wintersville, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Norman Craig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

It is hard to comprehend why so many Republican U.S. senators support another disastrous health "care" bill. Doing so seems to be only paying back the big donors to the Republican party. Is there no way that the people of this country can be protected? Is there no way that responsible people in the medical profession cannot have a say?

Norman Craig

Norman Craig  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Oberlin, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Ann Blombach [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I think Senator Grassley's comments say it all. This is ONLY a political deal for Republicans. They have to have some kind of win, but the Republicans themselves are unable to work together to accomplish anything, so they don't much care what they do to the American people as long as they get a "win." Let's do it by regular Senate rules--working together with all parties to come up with the best plan, informed by hearings, etc. Don't just ram something through without regard to the real needs of the American people.

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

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

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Ann Blombach  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Columbus, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Ellen Carol Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy Amendment

I write to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Amendment and to ask every Senator to vote against this cruel legislation. I am well aware of the fact that this bill will slash federal funding to the states by \$215 billion by 2026 and cut more than \$4 trillion in federal funding for health care coverage over a 20-year period. This legislation will devastate 1/6 of our nation's economy by making it extremely difficult for the poor, the disabled, the elderly, and the very sick to receive the full care they need by imposing per-capita caps; by eviscerating the protections and provisions guaranteed to all Americans in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and by ending the woefully inadequate block grants this bill substitutes for the ACA's expansion of Medicaid by 2026. Every professional medical association and consumer advocacy group of repute has asked the Senate not to pass this legislation.

I have witnessed what it is like to have no health insurance coverage for a child born with disabilities. My nephew was born in 1985 with Marfan Syndrome, a genetic defect that negatively affects the heart, the eyes, and the skeletal system. His parents had no health insurance for him at the time of his birth and subsequent to his birth were denied coverage by every health insurance provider in the state of Ohio. My nephew required nine major operations in his eight years of life on his eyes; on his heart, including a heart-valve replacement; and on his skeletal system, in an attempt to correct his caved-in rib cage. He died before a tenth operation, on his heart, could be scheduled. Who would want anyone—*anyone*—to undergo the stress and grief of caring for a desperately ill child with no assistance from our government and consistent refusal of coverage by the for-profit insurance industry for his many doctors' visits, hospitalizations, and major surgeries?

The Graham-Cassidy legislation will return us to a time when care for the very great health care needs of the ill and the disabled and the elderly and the poor will be capped and cut. It will return us to a time when Americans, depending on whether or not states requested waivers for the provisions and protections of the Affordable Care Act, may well be faced with unaffordable costs for health insurance, especially if they have, as most of us do, a pre-existing condition. It will return us to a time when insurers, through waivers provided by states, can refuse to cover some of the ten essential health benefits now guaranteed to every American under current law. And it will decimate the very health care coverage programs that have enabled millions of Americans to live more healthy and productive lives. Please vote against this heartless Graham-Cassidy legislation.

Dr. Ellen Carol Jones

[REDACTED]  
Columbus, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Vicki Schwab [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare is worse for the American people than the first. Please oppose this bill and also the ridiculous amount of \$20 billion in tax breaks 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.

Vicki Schwab  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mansfield, Ohio [REDACTED]

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Donna [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Hearing examining Graham, Cassidy, Heller

### **U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Hearing examining Graham, Cassidy, Heller Scheduled Monday, September 25, 2017**

Statement to be read before the Finance Committee examining the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal:

Respectfully submitted by Donna Saul, 491 Deanview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45224

I am writing on behalf of my daughter, Elisabeth Saul, who is a 23 year old adult impacted by Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum, Spastic Quadriplegia, Scoliosis, Cortical Visual Impairments, and other associated cognitive and developmental delays requiring 24/7 caregiving. I understand a hearing is underway for the "Graham-Cassidy" bill scheduled for Monday, September 25, at 11 a.m. I want you to understand my concerns about how the senate is responding to "Graham- Cassidy- Heller" and passing it will impact my daughter's life, my life, and the life of so many other Americans.

My general concern is that the "Graham-Cassidy" cannot be received as being fiscally conservative since it shifts funding to the states. In Ohio, for example, there are long waiting lists for children and adults to receive waiver options allowing them to bridge successfully into community life. We are also competing for funding for people with opioid addiction and other serious mental health issues. We had to wait until Elisabeth turned 22 before she became eligible for basic waiver services in Ohio. Before that time, we went through our savings just to make ends meet. It is only through the help of ACA, SSI, Medicaid that we can manage through the daily challenges of caregiving for Elisabeth 24/7. We need to improve ACA, not throw it away.

Elisabeth's life story has been both a struggle and success. For many years, we struggled without any support at all. To give you some background on Elisabeth and her family, I left the museum field to take care of her because my husband couldn't balance the challenge of two jobs while caregiving for Elisabeth. Her needs were intense. For years, my husband and I were asking for help with waivers, respite assistance, and related services, but there were waiting lists or no funding available for us in Ohio. Our insurance paid for wheelchairs, gait trainers, and therapy, but each and every endeavor was a fight with Anthem and Humana due to her unique diagnosis. Less than 6,000 are born with this mutation and only 1/3 develop global delays in speech, mobility, visual acuity, and cognitive.

My husband is turning 60 next year. He switched career paths about 16 years ago from working in an environmental firm as a geologist with benefits to becoming self-employed selling microbes that clean up toxic sights. It gave him flexibility to be a backup caregiver, but it changed our financial and healthcare situation with only one income. For years, we paid more than \$3000 monthly in premiums because of Elisabeth's pre-existing condition – a condition in life predetermined for her before she was born. When the ACA went into effect, we found insurance at half the cost. Right now, we are paying \$1,500 annually.

Fortunately, when Elisabeth turned 18 years old she became eligible for SSI to receive Medicaid. As a result, she was immediately placed on a waiting list for a waiver assistance and it was only last year, when she was 22 when she was eligible for a very basic waiver. We are eternally grateful to the advocacy support from the levy-operated Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services and Governor Kasich in Ohio. Thank you, Governor Kasich, for listening to our family.

Today, Elisabeth attends "Viaquest" which is a privately-operated adult daycare in Cincinnati paid by her Medicaid. She is picked up in a van in the morning and dropped off in the afternoon. Her aides are part-time, have no medical benefits, and make very low wages for changing diapers, feeding her, and interacting with her. Yet, they are kind and compassionate and are challenged every day by group of adults who have higher acuity levels and functioning abilities. There are some with serious, almost violent behavior issues that puts Elisabeth at risk making her very vulnerable. For example, when Elisabeth was struck by client there with severe behavior issues, her aide threw her own body in front of Elisabeth to protect her. This happened twice. After investigations were conducted, we think the situation is under control.

I need you to understand that the challenges we face each and every day as her caregivers, we accept with honor, love, and commitment. We want our daughter to be safe most of all. We want her to have quality, dignity, and purpose. Forgoing vacations so we can pay our bills to keep our home is part of the territory. Going through our all our savings so we have nothing to support us in the event of an emergency is a worry, but we believe that miracles are found in the actions of other people. We are further way then ever from purchasing a wheelchair-accessible vehicle that can adequately transport her safely but life goes on. We make do taking each day one at a time hoping the floor doesn't drop out from under us. Our life wasn't always this way, but we learn, adapt, and change to keep our family together. Hearing just a little good news once in a while from our senators would be so helpful and encouraging so we can stay positive. Hearing news that our senators will not vote to take away our health insurance or Elisabeth's funding is the miracle I pray for each day. Just to have one day of that peace would be a miracle. It gives me hope when I hear about senators who listen and act on behalf of their constituents.

So, I ask you to please consider the cases of individuals like Elisabeth and other families caregiving for their adults and children who are severely mentally and physically impaired. Each case is so unique. There wasn't any medical neglect, as far we know, requiring lawsuits. Due to her diagnosis, she is off the radar and charts in social and physical

development. So remember that for her to fully experience the benefits of community life, she still needs specialized daycare, transportation, and respite. For her to fully interact and participate in her community with dignity, respect, and purpose, she needs help. We need help.

ACA, SSI, and Medicaid have been a source of light and a bridge for us. Please don't take it away. I would also like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve ACA without repealing it. We just can't go backward. We lost our savings just making ends meet. So hear my plea and prayers, Senators, do what we as Americans are morally obligated to do as a nation - to be the miracle of life and hope we are blessed to be as Americans. Please do not support "Graham-Cassidy."

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Saul, On Behalf of Elisabeth Saul

[REDACTED] Cincinnati, OH [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** david longacre [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.

david longacre  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Toledo, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Myron Uehlein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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Myron Uehlein  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
South Amherst, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Eric Noderer <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's time that Congress stops their "tip it over and burn it" attitude and begins working to retain what's good about the ACA and fix what's not. What it's called is not important. What it does to and for us citizens is. Thank you for your consideration.

Eric Noderer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Port clinton, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tami McGrattan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA proposed revisions

This newest proposal is worse than any of the others and is opposed by all the major health organizations and the insurance industry.

Try a plan that provides health care for all without limiting pre-existing conditions and has reasonable co-pays. There must be ideas out there for that?

I oppose any plan that takes health care away from so many and limits that healthcare based on pre-existing conditions or age.

Tami McGrattan

[REDACTED]  
Chardon OH [REDACTED]

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Tami McGrattan

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kim Reno [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** delin@cff.org  
**Subject:** Statement on Graham -Cassidy to SCF  
**Attachments:** Senate Finance Statement Kim Reno.docx

Please see the attached statement regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,

Kim Reno

[REDACTED]  
Maumee, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jim & Kim Reno [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** delin@cff.org  
**Subject:** Statement on Graham -Cassidy to SCF  
**Attachments:** Senate Finance Statement James Reno.docx

Attached is my statement for the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,

Jim Reno

[REDACTED]  
Maumee, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeff Neikirk [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Jeff Neikirk

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Troy, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Chris Monti <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Chris Monti

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
North Ridgeville, Ohio [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jolene White [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.

Jolene White  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Cincinnati, Ohio, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

My family and friends, indeed the majority of Americans, rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband and I enjoy good health but for insurance purposes we both have pre-existing conditions. The pre-existing conditions protection offered by the ACA is something we cannot afford to lose. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Annette Shaughnessy  
Berea, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Andria Hoy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

I oppose this bill as it would cause millions of Americans to lose their health insurance and raise premiums. This would be a disaster for Americans and should not even be considered for a vote. Passing this bill would be cruel and certainly not in the interest of Americans.

Sincerely,

Andria Hoy

Cleveland Heights, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Daphne Blankenship [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please DO NOT repeal the ACA!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family would be financially devastated if we could not rely on the ACA's medical coverage and coverage for preexisting conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Work together to make something that will do the most good for the most Americans, not line the pockets of the wealthy (and which will lead to suffering and death as a result).

Sincerely,

Daphne Blankenship

Newark, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pamela Schisler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No Graham-Cassady

I am writing to urge you to vote no on the Graham-Cassady bill to repeal ACA. I have family members who lose healthcare coverage under this bill. My mother is handicapped and depends on Medicaid. My sister has MS, RA, and Lupus. Under this bill she would lose coverage because she would exceed her maximum benefits within a year, not to mention she has a pre-existing condition!

This bill is not good for the American people. We don't want it. No to Graham-Cassady!!!

Pamela Schisler  
[REDACTED]  
Middlefield, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Chuck Platt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My story with Medicaid

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that the Graham-Cassidy bill calls for freezing Medicaid reimbursements for Planned Parenthood. This is a ridiculously stupid proposal. Access to quality maternal care and family planning should not be dictated by one's income. Quality maternal care and family planning are public goods that benefit all members of society by minimizing unwanted births, keeping children and mothers healthier. Planned Parenthood leads the way with quality, affordable access to maternal care and family planning. Get it together, GOP. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Chuck Platt

Dayton, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Brian Varney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My wife has a disease that would not allow us to obtain insurance if this bill passes, as it would give our state the option to opt-out of pre-existing condition coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve our healthcare system, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Brian Varney  
Columbus, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gayle Reichert [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

I want to add my name to those who are unable to sleep tonight because of our concern about the affordable healthcare act. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for many reasons 1)we need a NATIONAL health care act, not one that will result in population shifts, greater inequality, and chaos in our personal and national lives 2)The working poor of this country need more help to get on their feet, not less. My daughter works with Medicaid receiving single mothers who work three jobs and only see their children at bedtimes just trying to keep body and soul together. 3) To find a good solution, as Senator McCain says, we need bipartisan dialogue and problem-solving, not politically based ram-rodging.

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

Sincerely, Gayle Reichert, Cincinnati, Ohio



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Re: Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy-Heller healthcare bill  
From: Barbara Padgett  
[REDACTED]  
Toledo OH [REDACTED]

I am writing to express my strongest opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. Despite the statements made by its defenders, it is obvious upon reading it that this bill would be a disaster for healthcare in the United States. The Senate's hurry to rush the bill through has precluded a full CBO score, but the best-available analyses indicate that millions of people would lose their health insurance. Not only would this be devastating for these people personally, but their communities would suffer as well. Hospitals and nursing homes, often the largest employer in a region, would be forced to close due to lack of revenue, putting hundreds of thousands of people out of work and affecting the economies of every state.

I'm close enough to Medicare age that, with an effective date of 2021, the worst of the bill won't affect me directly. (I'm assuming, perhaps naively, that Medicare will still exist then.) However, given my chronic pre-existing conditions, it's likely that I'll end up in a care facility, probably sooner rather than later, meaning that I'll need to go on Medicaid. Will Medicaid still be there for me? If not, you're condemning me to a quick death.

Other members of my family will be affected far sooner. My sister has lupus, and is also still dealing with the after-effects of a near-fatal car accident nearly 10 years ago. She would never be able to afford insurance coverage without the protections guaranteed by the Affordable Care Act. In fact, she would probably already have run up against a lifetime cap if the ACA hadn't eliminated that.

Prior to retiring on disability, I spent 25 working at a local hospital. Hospitals, clinics, and nursing facilities are the main employers in my area. Without Medicaid reimbursement and the payments made by private insurance companies, most of these institutions would be forced to lay off numerous employees. Some would close altogether. Does Congress have a plan to provide reemployment opportunities for all of these people?

As you can see, the outcome of this bill is not simply important to me--it is a matter of life and death. I hope you will do the right thing and vote NO on this cruel bill.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jenifer Potter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill and our daughter

Our 13 year old daughter is a 3x leukemia fighter who has endured 2 stem cell transplants and lives with Chronic Graft vs. Host Disease of the Skin, which is a side effect from the last transplant. The treatment and therapy for this disease is very costly and will last for her entire life. Taking away her protection that the ACA provides her is beyond cool. Pre-existing conditions must continue to be protected against discrimination. Lifetime and annual caps cannot be a part of the insurance world again. She is a hero. She has battled for her life over and over again. Do not shut the door on her. Please.

**We are a family of a child cancer-fighter who is afraid for her healthcare future.**

<https://vimeo.com/216510016>

Sincerely,  
Jenifer Potter  
Ohio  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Juno.com [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:03 PM  
**To:** gchc@coments  
**Subject:** ACA repeal/replace

Healthcare is a very real concern to me, and to everyone I know, my age and older (that would be every 'senior citizen') and nearly everyone else - because even if someone is younger and in perfect health NOW, it would be highly naive of anyone to believe that they would not one day be in need of sensibly priced quality health care --- THAT is not "rocket science".

I FIRMLY BELIEVE CONGRESS IS NOT CAPABLE OF CRAFTING AN APPROPRIATE HEALTH BILL THAT IMPROVES ON OBAMACARE CARE, NOR WILL THEY EVER BE ----- UNTIL THRY ALL HAVE THE SAME HEALTHCARE AS EVERYONE ELSE. As long as Congress has a privileged policy, they will never relate to their constituents!

Dianne Jones  
Delaware, OHIO

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa S [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I/my family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with healthcare is every person in my family has at least one pre-existing condition. I take meds for migraine, high blood pressure, and thyroid disorder. I'm also a sexual assault survivor and sometimes have anxiety, depression, and panic attacks. My dad has asthma and acid reflux. My mom had quintuple bypass surgery after a heart attack and also take meds for thyroid disorder. My brother has PTSD after being deployed in Afghanistan. My sister-in law has pre-diabetes. My son has an endocrine disorder, anxiety, depression, and PTSD. My parents us Medicare, my son uses college healthcare as well as Medicaid. I solely use the VA because I can't afford the useless policy I would have to pay for entirely out of my own pocket that's offered through my employer.

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

Lisa Strimple  
Sandusky, OH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Darrell Saylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:43 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.

Darrell Saylor

[REDACTED]  
wilmington, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Betty Lou Baker <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Betty Lou Baker  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

New Philadelphia, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Maureen Nimis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

My daughter is a single mother of 3 whose ex does not pay child support.

She works two jobs, but still relies on medicaid.

We are retired in our late 60s and have been supporting her as the children's father should be.

They are basically healthy, but even so, they have abundant health care needs.

If they no longer can be covered by medicaid, it will mean financially devastation for her family as well as for me and my husband.

I worry for the children's future and now I have to worry about ours as well.

Medicaid is the one bit of assistance she has that has relieved her and OUR major concerns.

Poor is ok - as long as you have your health, right?

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

Sincerely,  
Maureen Nimis  
Oxford, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elin, David [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** Jim & Kim Reno; gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: Statement on Graham -Cassidy to SCF

Thank you both for all you do for the CF community.

David

David T. Elin

Sent from my mobile device

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**From:** Jim & Kim Reno <jrandco@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:20:32 AM  
**To:** GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov  
**Cc:** Elin, David  
**Subject:** Statement on Graham -Cassidy to SCF

Attached is my statement for the Graham-Cassidy bill.  
Thank you,  
Jim Reno

[REDACTED]  
Maumee, Ohio [REDACTED]

**DISCLAIMER:** This e-mail may contain confidential information, which may be protected by applicable privileges, and may constitute non-public information. It is intended to be conveyed only to the designated recipient(s) of the message. If you are not an intended recipient of this message, please notify the sender. Unauthorized use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this message is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Eugene King [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments; Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to ask you to reject the Graham-Cassidy proposal because it would throw millions of Americans off of their health insurance and make it impossible for them to access any meaningful healthcare. In many cases, the result will be that currently self-sufficient and employed Americans will no longer be able to work because of underlying treatable conditions that would become disabling if untreated.

Healthy Americans are productive Americans. It is prudent and patriotic to support policies and programs that help all Americans become and remain healthy.

Graham-Cassidy is not a bipartisan approach. It has been concocted hurriedly and secretly, without a full CBO score that would contain estimates of coverage loss and premium changes.

As a lawyer, I would never recommend that a client accept an offer unless we understand the terms, ramifications, and consequences completely. No one knows all of the consequences of Graham-Cassidy because of timing and secrecy. No reasonable person would agree to a deal like this in their personal lives, so surely a deliberative legislative body like the United States Senate should reject it.

Graham-Cassidy would completely eliminate the ACA's expansion of Medicaid, which has extended coverage to 11 million low-income adults. Passage of this bill means there will be no funding for the Ohio Medicaid expansion, or other states, beginning in July 2018.

It would completely eliminate the ACA's marketplace subsidies, which currently help almost 9 million people afford coverage. Moderate-income working people buying individual market coverage would no longer be guaranteed *any* assistance.

On top of these cuts, the plan would also cap and cut Medicaid for seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children, cutting funding outside expansion by about \$175 billion between 2020 and 2026. Ohio would lose over \$2.5 Billion in 2026 and \$10.1 Billion in 2027.

The Cassidy-Graham bill would let states waive the ACA's prohibition on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums as well as its essential health benefit requirements. When it analyzed the House waivers, CBO concluded that in parts of the country, people with pre-existing conditions "might not be able to purchase coverage at all," and in states accounting for half the nation's population, plans would be able to go back to excluding services like maternity care and substance use treatment.

Like prior Republican bills, Cassidy-Graham specifically targets access to women's health care services by barring states from reimbursing Planned Parenthood for preventive health and family planning services for people enrolled in Medicaid.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Please reject the Graham-Cassidy proposal because it is bad for Americans and America.

Sincerely,

Eugene R. King

Eugene R. King, Esq.

[REDACTED]  
Upper Arlington, Ohio [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** richard kunkel <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:08 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.

richard kunkel

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

wadsworth, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marguerite Blythe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; Marguerite Blythe Katchen  
**Subject:** Testimony for Monday, 9/25 Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that because of arthritis and surgery for joint replacements, I would not be able to purchase insurance on the commercial market. The Graham-Cassidy bill would condemn me to not having insurance at all. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cincinnati OH [REDACTED]

Marguerite Katchen  
in South West Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Grieser <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:45 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

To whom it may concern,

**Members of my family** rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our son is disabled due to drug addiction, the mother and his children need health care and depend on the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Linda Grieser

Cincinnati, Ohio

--

Linda Grieser  
Harpist  
The Adagio Trio

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jackie Peterson [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please behave as fellow human beings, not politicians.

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son, who has his own business, could not afford coverage without it.

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

Sincerely,  
Jackie Peterson  
Columbus, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Vosburg-Bluem, Bethany [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is my genuine concern for those who will suffer as a result of the passing of this bill. I, right now in my life, am very fortunate to have amazing insurance through my husband's employer, however, if he were to lose his job which could happen, his preconditions of cancer, heart disease and his age, would make him uninsurable! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Bethany Vosburg-Bluem  
Westerville, Ohio

Bethany Vosburg-Bluem, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Teacher Education  
Civic Sustainability Thinker  
Otterbein University

Join my Blackboard Collaborate Classroom [HERE](#)

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Martha Peck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with cancer and a recurrence of cancer could exclude me from being able to get affordable healthcare because of a pre-existing condition. Without treatment, I would die, without insurance, this could bankrupt me. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Martha Peck  
Strongsville, OH



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tim Cooke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

I would like to urge you to save the ACA and work out fixes for the broken pieces. While I have personal reasons, I believe it is the best move for others that it helps. I myself am on Medicaid as I am unable to work for medical reasons. I am 60 years old and, should I lose my coverage, will not be able to afford the care I need.

--

Warmest regards, and make it a great day!

Tim  
Cooke  
Delaware, OH [REDACTED]

The first day or so we all pointed to our countries. The third or forth day we were pointing to our continents. By the fifth day we were aware of only one earth.

- Bin Sulman Al-Saud, Saudi Arabian Astronaut

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shannon Robinson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I oppose Trumpcare in any form. As someone with pre-existing conditions and long term illness I cannot afford the consequences of this bill. While I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, what I really want to see is a single-payer system. Politicians have always put special interests and their own benefits, largely as wealth, white males, ahead of citizens when debating healthcare. This is ludicrous.

Sincerely,  
Shannon  
Columbus, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Scott & Nancy Barngrover [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy health care bill and wish to see a bipartisan Congressional effort made to improve the ACA rather than repeal it. The G-C bill is not good for Ohioans, women, the elderly, those with pre-existing conditions and children with disabilities. I am a teacher in an inner-city public elementary school and our five full-time mental health therapists are funded by students' Medicaid. This essential care for our children may well disappear under the G-C bill.

Therefore, I strongly prefer Congress use their regular order to make improvements to the ACA. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,

Nancy Barngrover

Cincinnati OH

, 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.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Patricia Kanney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:01 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. Patricia Kanney

[REDACTED]  
Coldwater, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kirsten Searle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. ACA saved my daughter when she had to take medical leave from college. Because of ACA, she was able to stay on our insurance, receive the care she needed, and return to school, where she could finish her degree which enabled her to get a good job. Without ACA, she would be at risk of losing access to affordable healthcare due to her preexisting condition.

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

Sincerely,  
Kirsten Searle  
Dayton, Ohio

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Pipitone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't ruin my daughter's future.

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 three year old daughter was diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech. With this condition she need intense speech therapy as well as occupational therapy. It is possible that her need for therapies will be life long and without a clause for pre-existing conditions we may not be able to afford out of pocket costs for therapy if she gets denied for future insurance coverage. Except for her speech delays my daughter is smart a child with potential to do great things. A lack of insurance could ruin her chances at a normal life. Please don't ruin the changes for Cora and thousands of children like her. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laura Pipitone

Cincinnati, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maia O'Meara [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Graham-Cassidy bill hearing

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a young woman, the ACA has dramatically improved my services and health care options. I have been able to take better care of myself because of it's provisions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Maia O'Meara

Rootstown, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Holly Wissing [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My friend depends on the Affordable Care Act

Please, please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act but instead work to improve it. Why? My oldest friend's son has had epilepsy since childhood. As a result of frequent seizures he could not drive and thus his lifestyle and job choices were limited. We live in outside of a small town with no public transportation. An operation using a new technique has helped immeasurably and now, following this operation he can support himself and leave home to work. However, he is still dependent on an extremely expensive drug. Without this medication his life will be dismal again. He can work and be independent ONLY because of the Affordable Care Act. Ohio would have its funding reduced under the proposed new legislation.

And what about those of us with pre-existing conditions? Yes, technically I could buy a Mercedes, but can I afford one? No.

For numerous reasons I oppose repeal and support working in a bi-partisan fashion to solve this country's health care problems.

Holly Wissing [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** AJ Lewis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Greetings

I want to add my voice in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy proposal. Far too many reputable health organizations are in opposition to this bill. This whole issue seems to be no longer about how well constituents are being served rather than ramming some hastily concocted program down the public's throat to only to satisfy a "promise" to Republicans to replace the ACA. Thank you

Tony John  
Dayton OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Caitlin Cusick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** STOP Graham-Cassidy

My friends and 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.

Best,  
Caitlin Cusick

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**Caitlin Cusick, RN**  
Cleveland  
, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jenkins, Trevor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is a medical abomination

To the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Trevor Jenkins and I am board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular medicine. The current healthcare draft legislation known as Graham-Cassidy is a disaster in its current form based on what little has been disclosed to the public. I call for the Senate to reject this egregious removal of coverage for 32 million Americans.

This proposal violates the Hippocratic oath and will do irreparable harm to the American medical system. As a physician who has been able to care for 100s of Ohioans who gain access to our health system through the ACA, I know that their loss of coverage would result in 100s of unnecessary deaths in the coming years from lack of preventative cardiovascular care and untreated coronary disease, heart failure and valvular heart disease.

As a member of the American College of Cardiology and American Medical Association, I reiterate our medical society's opposition to this legislation. I have attached the memo circulated by our system CEO, Mr. Zenty that is also in opposition to the bill.

I call on Senators of both political parties to work together to strengthen the cost-sharing provisions in the American Care Act to reduce the growth rate in healthcare premiums for individuals enrolled in ACA exchange programs. I implore Republican members of the committee to reach across the aisle to strengthen the current system rather than knock it down without a viable replacement for 30 million Americans.

Sincerely,

Trevor L. Jenkins, M.D.  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Director, Dyspnea Center  
University Hospital Case Medical Center  
Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

[REDACTED]  
Cleveland, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Appointment: [REDACTED]

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**From:** Thomas Zenty, Chief Executive Officer  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:10 AM  
**Subject:** A Call to Action: Affordable Care Act Repeal/Replace Efforts



**University Hospitals**

**A Call to Action:  
Affordable Care Act Repeal/Replace Efforts**

*A message from Chief Executive Officer Thomas F. Zenty III*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristy McCray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story includes a history of melanoma (which I am so grateful and lucky to have beaten), other skin cancers, and GI disease -- all of which would be considered pre-existing conditions under Graham-Cassidy. I am currently employed, with employer-sponsored health insurance, but should that change, I may not be able to access OR afford health insurance. When the ACA was passed, I felt an enormous sense of relief that healthcare would always be accessible to me. I no longer feel this way. It is scary knowing that at any moment, this can change due to the whims of politicians. (Believe me, I have also called my members of Congress often re: ACA repeal!)

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

Best,  
Kristy McCray  
Columbus, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marianne Mader [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill

I work with individuals with developmental disabilities in rural Ohio. Many of the individuals rely on Medicaid for their healthcare, day program services, employment services, and in-home supports.

The Graham-Cassidy proposal creates Medicaid Block Grants which will greatly reduce funding over time. With more and more people with disabilities and senior citizens receiving community-based care (vs institutional care) block grants will result in a reduction of services as more people need service. More people needing service with fewer dollars available creates a sustainability problem.

Please vote no on this proposal. It fails to provide long term financial sustainability for individuals with developmental disabilities and puts their health and safety at risk.

**Marianne M. Mader**  
Superintendent

[REDACTED]  
Holmesville, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**ALWAYS  
THERE**  
HOLMES COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Dennis Culley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:45 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Dennis Culley  
**Subject:** Healthcare Comments

Dear Senators,

Healthcare in America – Let's cure the patient instead of treating the symptoms.

First, recognize that everyone is not the same, therefore a single solution is not the answer to all the problems. However, a single solution is applicable to everyone and is likely to solve MOST of the problems for MOST of the people. That should be the focus of government involvement in the general application of healthcare. That is not to say that other solutions could not be applied for specific segments of the population. The failure of Obamacare is that it forced the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile solution on 99 percent of the population that didn't need or want it.

So what are the problems that need to be solved? Number one is access to healthcare. Number two is how to pay for the healthcare received. These are not mutually exclusive, which points to another failure of the government involvement. Anything the government pays for or mandates becomes more expensive. It is a fundamental law of economics. Anyone who receives healthcare should have complete control over their care and who they receive it from. At the same time, they should be constrained from overuse of a limited resource by having to pay a cost. This highlights the distortion inserted into the healthcare market by the ubiquitous use of Prepaid Healthcare, which completely obscures the cost of medical care. Prepaid Healthcare was introduced by another government free market distortion: World War II wage controls and employer provided health insurance.

So let's unwind these problems.

1. Eliminate employer-provided medical insurance. Insurance companies use groups to EXCLUDE coverage for high risk individuals. If you eliminate groups (the same as putting everyone in the same group) you eliminate the ability of insurance companies from excluding anyone the right to acquire medical insurance. If you put everyone in the same group you limit the ability of insurance companies from pricing people out of coverage. Healthcare access improves. Incidentally, there is no longer any incentive to purchase from the employer because they receive the same "deal." This improves worker mobility and eliminates the healthcare burden on employers. All good things.
2. Requiring people to purchase their own medical insurance forces them to understand the costs of medical care. Instead of the comprehensive Prepaid Healthcare plans most people receive from their employer they will opt for catastrophic insurance coverage at far lower cost. By the way, since insurance is about controlling financial risk, catastrophic coverage is actually the only true medical insurance. It's correct that people will pay for primary care and many elective procedures directly, but they will understand the costs and choose wisely in a free market at far lower cost than Prepaid Healthcare. Incidentally, primary medical care and elective procedures will come down in price because of the reduction in administrative burden that was imposed by insurance and government regulation. Lower cost means improved access.

The best solution for the MOST people is also the simplest – use catastrophic insurance coverage and pay the rest out of pocket. People will be happy because of improved access and lower cost. Medical providers will be happy to eliminate burdensome administration. The insurance industry will be stable because of predictable actuarial costs. The Federal Government will not be inserted into the personal issue of healthcare for most people, a function it was never intended to perform.

With this “new” Free Market way of doing business also comes responsibility. People can choose to opt out of health insurance but they cannot be allowed to game the system. And the solution for the 80% does not preclude the alternative solutions for the remaining 20% needing some extra help ... as long as it is not completely free for the reasons described above.

Dennis Culley

[REDACTED]  
Westalke, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Heidi Lohrmann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

As a senior citizen I am pleading for a no vote on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would hurt my healthcare and that of millions of other Americans.

Sincerely,  
Heidemarie Lohrmann  
Sylvania, OH [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Carly Psenicka [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:36 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. A few days ago, I underwent a cervical biopsy procedure, and I may need to have more cancer-preventing surgeries if the sample contains abnormalities. I am a 28-year-old adjunct professor, and I also work a part-time job to make ends meet. The recent procedure required me to take unpaid time off from both of these jobs, and future surgeries would likely require the same sacrifice. The healthcare I currently have is affordable enough that I can undergo these procedures and take time off to recover without worrying about the loss of pay. If I did not have it, I would not be able to pay for these potentially life-saving procedures, nor would I be able to take time off to receive them or recover from them. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Carly Psenicka

Youngstown, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sally Eldermire [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Sent from my iPad

**Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:**

**The Graham/Cassidy repeal of the Affordable Care Act is an insult to every American. All Americans deserve quality healthcare. This bill makes it very likely that won't be available to the most vulnerable of us.**

**I respectfully ask you to vote no, America will remember this moment.**

**Thank you,**

**Sally Eldermire**  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Alicia F [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 10:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please don't repeal ACA

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have several pre-existing conditions, bipolar disorder, anxiety, PCOS, fibromyalgia... I do very well. I have a master's degree, am employed full time, recently bought a house, and have friends and family that I love. I am able to do this on a daily basis because of the medications and therapy I am able to receive through my health insurance. Without these tools and services, my life quickly becomes unmanageable. I want to continue being a productive member of society, I want to continue to live my life despite my health concerns. Please don't take this from me.

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

Sincerely,

Alicia

Hilliard, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Terry Bissett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Senate Committee Members,

I would like to express my displeasure with the Graham Cassidy Bill. I am worried about my 89 year old mother, who depends on the Medicaid Passport program in order to stay at home. All of my mom and dad's life savings were used for my dad's care the final years of his life.

I am worried about my wife and son, who depend on the ACA for insurance, as their employers do not provide it. They would most likely go on the rolls of the uninsured with this bill. I am on Medicare, but my wife is 62, and therefore has three years until Medicare.

Thanks for allowing me to express my opinion on this bill.

Very concerned citizen,

Terry Bissett  
Dayton, OH

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Constance Minerovic <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

Why intelligent people would vote for the Graham-Cassidy Bill is beyond me! Why would anyone want to harm their fellow 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.

Constance Minerovic

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Painesville, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Gail Davis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill feedback

As a mother of one and other on the way, my family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. **Because of that, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.** My children's ability to receive healthcare as they grow up should not be jeopardized if they are sick while young, or because they live in a certain state. That is just lunacy.

My fellow Americans and I have shown that we want a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Best,  
Gail Davis  
Lakewood, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jessica Weber [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.

Jessica Weber  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ravenna, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Patricia Dion <info@actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Patricia Dion

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Strongsville, Ohio [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Hello: 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.

Thank you,

Janet Zydney  
Wyoming, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Mark Barton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fix the ACA, do NOT repeal it!

To whom it may concern:

I urge the Committee to reject the Graham Cassidy ACA-repeal bill in its current form. It will deprive tens of millions of people of healthcare in the next two years alone, and will throw the insurance markets into absolute chaos. It does nothing to fix the problems Republicans claim to have with the ACA.

It is hastily thrown together and has been driven forward without input from the rest of Congress or the citizens of the United States. Its creation and implementation has been far from the "regular order" of the Senate.

I urge the Senators to consider a true bipartisan effort to fix the problems in the ACA. Graham Cassidy does nothing to help those in our country who so desperately need it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Mark Barton

[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** mary snow [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.

mary snow

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

columbia station, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mindy McIndy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I am on Caresource through the ACA exchange, and need it desperately due to having Ehlers-Danlos, a connective tissue disorder with many comorbidities. One of these comorbidities is gastroparesis, a partial paralysis of the stomach that causes me to vomit up most of the food that I eat, which has required hospitalizations for dehydration and malnutrition. Another is a clotting disorder. I've had three major DVTs since 2011, two since April of 2015 in the same leg. These DVTs have required hospitalizations that lasted several days, and expensive daily medications that need to be changed for every subsequent DVT due to them no longer working. If I did not have access to healthcare like before, I would have either died or never recovered financially. I've been ill since I was fourteen years old, so I am far past what my lifetime cap would have been on my old insurance before the ACA.

I would like to see Democrats and Republicans work together to improve the ACA, not destroy it. People like me depend on it in order to survive, and there are people worse off than me.

Sincerely,

Mindy Czech

Toledo, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Justin Sevenker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fix it! Don't repeal it!

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,

Justin Sevenker

Cleveland Heights, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Outing [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve the ACA, Vote Down Graham-Cassidy

As a young person pushing through the challenging starts of my career,  
I  
rely  
on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to  
finally  
see a  
n inclusive,  
bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Sara Outing

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** L Robeson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I'm writing to let you know that I do not support the Graham Cassidy health care bill.

The bill does not include adequate protections against pre-existing conditions While insurance companies must offer insurance to all consumers, those with pre-existing conditions will likely be priced out.

The bill permits lifetime caps, which could cause people to die for lack of medical insurance.

Because there is no individual mandate, the shared risk is reduced, and premium prices would go up.

States that took the Medicaid expansion, like Ohio, would lose billions.

Medicaid funding is reduced, and eliminated after 2027. I believe in Medicaid, which supports many of my friends and neighbors.

Most major medical associations and disease-focus charities oppose this bill.

The legislative process has not included a CBO score or bipartisan hearings.

This is not a bill for the American people. No one wants it but a discrete segment of Republican supporters and donors who make up a minority of the American population.

Don't even think that we won't remember.

Lisa Robeson

--  
Lisa Robeson

[REDACTED]  
Bluffton, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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.

Steven Arnett

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

aurora, Ohio [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Nancy Hurd

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Van Wert, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Beja, Morris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The proposed health bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I am pleased that the Committee has requested reactions to the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill—but I am not at all pleased by the bill itself, or the effects its passage would have on the health of millions of people.

Above all, I am concerned because of its devastating effect on people who depend on Medicaid. Obviously, that would include untold numbers of the elderly. But let me cite right now some *children* I personally know whose care is utterly dependent on Medicaid. A grand-niece of mine has Down syndrome; a friend has a son with spina bifida; another friend has a granddaughter with Angelman's Syndrome and another with autism. These children have done nothing wrong: they are not "responsible" for their illness. And I mention only children who are in the families of people I am close to or related to. They should not be abandoned.

But neither should all the other people who depend on the policies that are now in place and which would be abandoned by the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Morris Beja

\*\*\*

Morris Beja  
[REDACTED]

Columbus, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee, [REDACTED]

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.

Martha Bonvillain  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Cincinnati, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** William Balzer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I depend on quality, affordable healthcare. Our daughter was diagnosed and successfully treated for Hodgkins Lymphoma. Coverage limits would have had a significant financial impact on our entire family. Denial of coverage for pre-existing conditions will impact our daughter's future as a cancer survivor, or the premiums could be more than her salary as a social worker now working as a patient advocate in a cancer care hospital.

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,

Bill Balzer

Perrysburg, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rob Turner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** REJECT Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare is nightmarish enough, but hidden in 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. On top of that, to give this hot mess only ONE hearing is an embarrassment and outrage given the life and death matters at stake. It's almost as if Republicans know that this bill would not stand up to scrutiny.

If you have an ounce of decency you will reject Graham-Cassidy and protect the healthcare of millions of Americans -- and make corporations pay their fair share in taxes. We're watching, and will remember how you vote.

Rob Turner  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Kettering, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Chris Johnson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't make an already complex problem 50 times more complex

It's impossible to comment directly on a bill that hasn't been analyzed or debated properly. All we know for sure is Graham-Cassidy will be worse than the bills that preceded it.

We don't need 50 different health plans. People get sick or injured the same in all 50 states and deserve a uniform coverage that allows folks to move from state to state without losing coverage. A uniform plan will be good for business as interstate corporations won't have to support 50 different plans.

There is no simple solution to the very complex problem of healthcare so don't make it 50 times harder with the reasoning the states can do it better. States have enough on their plates, you should be helping to make it better, not worse for them.

Do the right thing for once and put the country before your not-so-well-thought-out-promise to repeal the ACA. It might have been possible had you done your homework and crafted a viable alternative of substance and not a patchwork quilt of catchword political memes thrown together at the last second for the 50th plus time.

Sincerely,

Christopher Johnson  
Columbus, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Lyons [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.

Deborah Lyons  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Oxford, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jen Powers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy for Jack and Evie

Hello, I am asking this committee vote no on Graham-Cassidy. I have two kids: Jack is 7 and the sweetest boy ever. He's autistic. My daughter Evie is 5 and has sass all day long. She has Down syndrome. They will be negatively effected now and in the future by this bill. I am on the Board of the Autism Society Greater Cincinnati. I am on the Government Affairs Committee at the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati. Both organizations oppose this bill for their respective communities. We need more community inclusion and this bill will take us back in time to when there was no inclusion and only institutions. Both of my children have pre-existing conditions. If there is a cap on our healthcare plan my daughter Evie will be kicked off because of her high medical costs. We can do better than this bill. Please vote no for people with disabilities.

Thank you,

Jen Alge

[REDACTED]  
Maineville OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Robertson-Boyd [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

To the distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Of all the efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, this one is the most egregious and heartless.

It should not be passed hurriedly without receiving a proper CBO score. We Americans deserve to know just how this bill will affect us and our families before it gets rushed to a vote.

Playing politics with Americans' lives and healthcare is completely inappropriate. That is not what we constituents sent our Representatives and Senators to Congress to do. We expect our elected officials to work in a bipartisan effort to craft REAL reform that will work to protect healthcare for Americans, not strip it away.

On a personal level, I am upset that the Graham-Cassidy Bill will remove protections for pre-existing conditions. My son was born with a congenital birth defect. He will ALWAYS live with a pre-existing condition, and this bill could render him completely uninsurable for the rest of his life. That is CRUEL and HEARTLESS. It must not happen.

I applaud the news today that Senator John McCain has taken a stance against this completely partisan bill and has instead encouraged his colleagues in the Senate to work together to craft real bipartisan reform. I urge all of you to do what is right for the American people and do the same.

Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. And then find a way to stop playing partisan politics and work together to pass real legislation that protects healthcare for millions of Americans. It's the right thing to do.

Sincerely yours,

Laura Robertson-Boyd  
Ohio constituent  
District 3

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joyce Hicks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Joan McNary; Bruce I  
**Subject:** Do not repeal ObamaCare; Do not pass Graham-Cassidy

It is a travesty, unjust, and unChristian. Support your constituents and your donors. Stand up for a deliberative process that we have prospered under for 231 years. Do not succumb to winning for winning's sake. It is beneath every one of you.

Joyce Hicks  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carl Seitz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:25 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.

Carl Seitz  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Jefferson, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristy Clear [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Concerned citizen against the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I am strongly opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. We must find a way to provide health care for ALL Americans. Those with pre-existing conditions are counting on us. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your time,  
Kristy Barngrover Clear  
Columbus, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Horrible Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Graham Cassidy Bill

I am writing as a concerned US citizen, as well as speaking for 5 members of my family as well. This is a cruel bill, affecting MILLIONS of people in order to guarantee a TAX break to millionaires from the GOP donors. This is being done with NO ORDER whatsoever, no hearings, no CBO score, no NOTHING! This is un-American and opposed by every medical organization in the country. This will affect the lives of people I love, causing hardship beyond imagination, and death sentences for many. Please do everything to stop this horrific bill!  
Sincerely, Heather Hale Rocky River OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:01 PM  
**To:** gchc@omments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

As a retired supervisor in public schools, I would like to add my concerns about this bill. It seems to forget people with disabilities and long term conditions. But I especially worry about block grants to States to provide for the health of citizens. With a population that frequently moves, how will someone's health insurance travel with them? How do we ensure that needs are met equally in every State? This does not seem like the proper vehicle to correct the Affordable Care Act, but only to ensure that the goals it tries to address are wiped out. True statesmanship and concern for the well-being of all citizens would never consider this bill as written.

Anne Elder  
Oberlin.Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** David Thomas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no on Graham Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is that I have a serious preexisting condition which needs regular treatment, otherwise I would get sick and soon die. Millions of American's like me would lose coverage or be priced out of the market. Is that really what you want? Could you look me in the eyes and tell that is what you want?

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

Sincerely,

David Thomas

Columbus Ohio

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nicole R. Klungle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Knox, Jason (Portman)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson comments

### Statement

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
Monday, September 25, 2017 at 2:00PM  
215 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Dear Senators:

I consider myself a social progressive who endorses fiscal responsibility. As such, I recognize that the ACA has some problems. Not enough people are able to afford healthcare coverage under the ACA, and some even saw their premiums go up. Insurance companies are not properly providing a competitive and diverse market in all areas of the country. Drug pricing and the costs of services remain too high.

These are problems that need fixing. I'm sure we can agree on that.

What I also recognize is that several of my friends are alive today because of the ACA. Without it, they could not have afforded the care that saved their lives. And they rely on those provisions to ensure their future health. Some of my friends are likely to relapse into cancer or chronic illness; without affordable healthcare coverage, they will die. (And please don't tell me anyone can go to a hospital and get care. The hospitals need only provide emergency care—not chemo, radiation, extended therapy.)

The Graham-Cassidy bill fixes nothing. Instead, it magnifies existing problems a thousandfold. It is a foul piece of legislation for all Americans, no matter their beliefs or political leanings. It will result in children, the elderly, and the chronically ill being priced out of healthcare coverage. Lifetime caps will guarantee that children born with incurable diseases will be unable to afford healthcare well before adulthood. Defunding Planned Parenthood will cause no decrease in abortions—which are not funded from federal dollars in any case—but it will cause an increase in teen and adult unplanned pregnancies, an increase in STDs, and a decrease in life-saving cancer screenings.

Ultimately, the cost to America in both money and lives will be much higher under the provisions of the Graham-Cassidy bill than they are under the ACA. The lives may not matter to you. But I hope the money will.

Graham-Cassidy serves no one except those who rely on the votes of the ignorant, prejudiced, and uneducated. If you are voting in favor of Graham-Cassidy, I know why, and I expect more.

Specifically, I expect:

- a bipartisan effort
- an ACA fix or replacement that improves the accessibility of healthcare coverage, rather than further restricting it
- a bill formulated over time with input from industry experts, healthcare professionals, and the public
- legitimate bipartisan committee hearings in the appropriate committees
- an extended period for discussion and debate (90 seconds can hardly be considered a fair debate period)

Get yourselves together, Senators. The American people are relying on you to do the right thing.

With utmost sincerity,

Nicole R. Klungle



[REDACTED]  
St. Bernard, OH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paul Gibby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy!

This bill is not humane. It affects too many people with pre-existing conditions and doesn't provide adequate health care for a majority of Americans.

Don't let it continue/pass.

--Paul Gibby

[REDACTED]  
Terrace Park, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anneke Mason [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Hello Senate Finance Committee,

I am a constituent from Columbus, Ohio, and I strongly urge you to oppose the recent Graham-Cassidy bill that has been presented to appeal the ACA.

I work at a college, and am fortunate enough to have private insurance that allows me access to health care. However, a large number of the hundreds of students I work with depend on coverage that the ACA provides, many of whom have pre-existing conditions (I work closely with my college's office of disability services). It is imperative that there be real supports in place for those whom the Graham Cassidy bill would leave in serious peril without coverage.

Thank you for all that you do.

=====  
Anneke Mason, M.A., MS.Ed

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Courtney Hansen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because my son Troy has Down syndrome and depends on Medicaid.

Our school district uses Medicaid to fund speech, OT, and PT therapies, as well as special bus services.

When he transitions to adulthood, Medicaid ensures that he can work and live independently through job training, job coaches, transportation, independently living assistance.

Medicaid won't just cover medical expenses for my son, but help him live a life of self-determination and choice.

Please vote no to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,

Courtney Hansen

Courtney Hansen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Dyer, Dylan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 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. I am appalled at the coverage I would lose, as a young woman working freelance, under this new bill, and I find it inconceivable that it is being voted on so quickly. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Dylan Dyer

Columbus, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy all wrong for Americans

As an Ohioan, I am aghast at what the consequences will be to all Ohioans should this bill get through the Senate. This bill will cause irreparable damage to all those on Medicaid, Medicare, and those with pre-existing conditions! I have done my research, read the research done by bipartisan groups/agencies, and this health care bill is no better, and perhaps worse, especially for Ohio and other states which participated in the Medicaid Expansion program, than all the other bills proposed by Republicans. My entire family suffers from pre-existing conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, mental illness, etc. and I fear for us all if your horrible bill gets through. I pray that "clearer minds" will prevail.

STOP trying to get rid of the ACA just because you cannot bear having a health care system popularly known as Obamacare!! It has worked for millions of people, including many in my own family. No, it isn't perfect, but if the Republicans would just come to the table in good faith to work on a bipartisan effort to fix the ACA, this would be more productive. Stop wasting time on these ridiculous excuses for health care! I haven't seen a single endorsement by a medical group or association for this latest attempt. Rather, countless associations have plainly stated they do NOT support Graham-Cassidy. Give it up and learn to work together with your fellow Senators to fix the parts of the ACA which need it. Millions of American voters are tired of the costly, ineffective stalemate in Congress and the total lack of productive legislation in the last 8 months, which is why so many of us have serious plans to unseat as many incumbents as possible in upcoming elections.

Jeanne B. Matson  
Resident of Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Averett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid relates to my 85-year-old who is nearing the end of her savings and has advanced Parkinson's. She is wheelchair bound, needs help going to the bathroom, bathing, dressing etc... She will soon rely on Medicaid to pay for her round-the-clock care at her nursing home. Please do not throw her out on the street to "keep a campaign promise." My mother worked hard her whole life. She deserves better than the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,

Nancy Averett

Cincinnati, Ohio

Nancy Averett  
Freelance Writer

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nancy King [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

I am a voting resident of Ohio. Below is my opinion about the Graham-Cassidy bill. I want both of my senators, Brown and Portman, to vote against it.

Graham-Cassidy is not a bipartisan approach. It will be done hurriedly and secretly, without a full CBO score that would contain estimates of coverage loss and premium changes.

Graham-Cassidy would completely eliminate the ACA's expansion of Medicaid, which has extended coverage to 11 million low-income adults. Passage of this bill means there is no Ohio funding for Medicaid July 2018.

It would completely eliminate the ACA's marketplace subsidies, which currently help almost 9 million people afford coverage. Moderate-income working people buying individual market coverage would no longer be guaranteed *any* assistance.

On top of these cuts, the plan would also cap and cut Medicaid for seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children, cutting funding outside expansion by about \$175 billion between 2020 and 2026. Ohio would lose over \$2.5 Billion in 2026 and \$10.1 Billion in 2027.

The Cassidy-Graham bill would let states waive the ACA's prohibition on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums as well as its essential health benefit requirements. When it analyzed the House waivers, CBO concluded that in parts of the country, people with pre-existing conditions "might not be able to purchase coverage at all," and in states accounting for half the nation's population, plans would be able to go back to excluding services like maternity care and substance use treatment.

Like prior Republican bills, Cassidy-Graham specifically targets access to women's health care services by barring states from reimbursing Planned Parenthood for preventive health and family planning services for people enrolled in Medicaid.

Thank you,  
Nancy King

[REDACTED]  
Upper Arlington, Ohio [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** sheila graham [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy; otherwise, I will end up dead.

To whom it may concern:

I have bipolar disorder, which after having wreaked much havoc in my lifetime, was finally diagnosed at 39. I am 61 now & very happy to say that I am no longer my illness! I am a person with value who functions (fairly well) in every-day society. I am even back to work!

I contemplated suicide every day for over 15 years (five hospitalizations) & though that thought has decreased over time, it still lives within me. I fight it anew every time it rears its ugly head.

I stave off this symptom of my illness because of three simple things:

1. I receive excellent psychiatric treatment. This is very expensive.
2. I take a "cocktail" of psychiatric medications on a daily basis. This is very, very expensive!
3. I have insurance that pays for most of this. It, too, is expensive & I can barely afford it now.

**I have a pre-existing condition.** I won't be able to afford to pay the premiums of the high-risk insurance pools that Graham-Cassidy proposes. (Been there, done that, declared bankruptcy.)

Without insurance that I can afford, I will become my illness once again & suicide will necessarily be my end-game. That is the unfortunate truth of my situation. You have the power to stop my eventual suicide.

I can provide you with a list of all it has taken over the years to bring me to this point of reasonable health, but should I bother? Do I really matter to you who claim to be representing my best interests? Judging from the drivel that is Congress these days, I sincerely doubt it.

Please prove me wrong. Vote NO on the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. You will prevent my untimely death &, no doubt, thousands of others', too.

Respectfully,  
Sheila Graham (You do NOT have permission to use my name.)  
Tiffin, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rosemarie Kistler [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.

Rosemarie Kistler  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

North Olmsted , Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nicholas Tisdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Nicholas Tisdale  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Powell, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** lynn hammond [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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lynn hammond

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
cleveland hts, OH, Ohi [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jacqueline Salley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

Jacqueline Salley  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Berea, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laurie Zuckerman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My children rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My daughter has a fellowship, and when it runs out next year she will not have health insurance until she finds another job, which could be awhile. Even though she's in her 20s, she still needs health insurance!! The Graham-Cassidy bill will take that away from her. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Zuckerman  
Akron, OH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Eric Baker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is a Disaster

Hello,

I am just a citizen concerned about my ability to afford health insurance and thus health care. I am a college graduate, working in finishing up my teacher certification in Ohio. I have an incredible amount of student loan debt that I am working to pay off and I work part time as an English teacher under a provisional license. I am trying to be a productive member of society. I am trying to save for my future; I would like to get married, buy a house, raise a family. It seems like an impossible dream. In America, to the child of two people who are college graduates and home owners, my ability to fulfill the "American dream" are in question.

The only thing that gave me hope towards a future of true financial independence from my parents (who still pay both my cell phone and car insurance bills so that I can afford the LUXURY of renting a small apartment that I share with my fiancée) was the fact that I could afford health insurance on my own through the ACA. Graham-Cassidy will ruin this. It does not make true allowances for those with pre-existing conditions. It allows Alaska to buy out of the deal altogether! That seems unethical to say the least.

Please, when discussing this bill, consider that there are millions like me, struggling to make ends meet. There are millions that will simply go without insurance or proactive health care. Besides the obvious humanitarian concern this should raise, it will drastically affect productivity of American workers.

Thsnk you,

Eric Baker

PS- Let Senator Portman see this, please. The fact that he has REFUSED to meet with his constituents to discuss matters like these consistently is appalling. I have lost faith in my representative's ability to represent.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal of the ACA

As a citizen of Ohio, I am OPPOSED to the repeal of the ACA. I am a mom of 6, 2 with chronic conditions. I am a nearly 20 year RN in the hospital setting. I have private insurance. I have pre existing conditions. I AM AGAINST THE REPEAL OF THE ACA.

Signed,  
Bethany Dearwester



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dina Maiorana [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy = No

Americans know this is a bad idea. I'm amazed that any legislator would want their name on it.

You can't take coverage away from Americans.

You can't make the cost of coverage exorbitant.

Plus, this bill is sexist.

Should it pass, the republicans will only further enhance the infamy with which this era will go down in history.

Dina Maiorana  
Columbus, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marcia Hartsock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

This bill would totally restructure the US healthcare and insurance system without due consideration, and would be highly disruptive to all sectors of the US population.

- does not have complete analysis from the CBO regarding coverage losses

- will take funding away from my state, Ohio

does not protect those with pre-existing conditions from unreasonable and unaffordable rate hikes

- will decrease Medicaid coverage for the elderly poor.

This is a bad plan. A bipartisan healthcare plan is what this country needs desperately.

Marcia Hartsock  
Cincinnati OH  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Kabakoff [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

To whom it may concern,

I am a voter from Ohio writing to you with my concerns about the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. I am specifically concerned about leaving the medicaid support to each state. Our society is too mobile to have a person's medical care depend on where they live. It is often helpful for the elderly to live nearer a younger family member. Support for nursing home facilities or critical medical procedures should not be at risk if a person moves from one state to another. A person limited funds should get the same life saving and maintaining procedures as those with deep pockets and extraordinary health insurance.

We all save money when we have a healthy population. The emergency room should not be the only option for those in financial stress. Everyone pays more when that happens, emotionally and financially.

Thank you for your time.  
Carol Kabakoff  
Oxford, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Helen Sheumake [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care hearing comments; Ohio [REDACTED]

Hello. I want to convey why I ask that the current cassidy-graham bill be rejected, and instead Congress work in bipartisan ways to strengthen the current ACA health care plan -- a plan that no amount of misinformation hides the fact that it has succeeded in slowing the rise of health care costs, it has resulted in lower numbers of Americans lacking insurance coverage, and fewer Americans are declaring bankruptcy due to health bills.

Until a year and a half ago, I did not suffer any major health issues aside from allergies -- and my allergy Rx had long gone OTC, so I had to pay for that on my own anyhow

But at the end of 2015, at age 50, I suffered a severe respiratory flu for three months. After that infection finally ebbed, I was left with

- \* moderate asthma
- \* moderate ground glass nodules (lung scarring, broadly speaking) in my lungs
- \* intense fatigue, muscle weakness
- \* chronic cough that has lasted to today

I have health insurance coverage through my employer. CT scan revealed the lung growths, which enlarged and then finally began to get smaller. I was scanned monthly for three months b/c, you know, fear of lung cancer and being monitored. Luckily, the growths stopped.

My insurance covers the Breo inhaler -- treatment that runs about \$400 a month without RX coverage. The inhaler has calmed the cough, making it possible for me to continue my work of teaching full time. I have been able to exercise, albeit with care. I've slowly resumed most activities. I still struggle with chest pain, an ongoing cough, and fatigue, but I'm getting better.

This is not the worst story. I am super-lucky. We pay hefty premiums which we can afford even though the cost has diminished the amount we can save for our kid's college -- we can still afford the payments. We could NOT have afforded, with TWO phd-degreed, full-time employed people in the household and an household income that puts us up right at the top edge of the middle class -- We could not have afforded to continue to save for college AND paid my medical costs out of pocket. I was fully ready to forfeit medical care -- and if I lacked insurance, I would have opted for medical disability, which I qualified for. I did not want to see my little family's financial well-being sacrificed due to my poor health. I honestly did not know what I would do, if the costs mounted up. I even thought I'd prefer to die in a severe asthma attack than to saddle my family with health bills they would have to struggle under long after my death -- or my partial recovery. But, we had health insurance and relatively good coverage, so while the co-payments are a bit much, we have just cut back on a few things, continued to run a household with the single debt of a mortgage, and continued to save for retirement and college. But that was only possible because of the health insurance.

So: for lawmakers. This is a minor illness but an example of what being ill can do: it can be costly, the worse effects easily preventable IF a person has insurance. Without insurance I would not be treated. Without treatment I would have had severe asthma attacks and probably have left my job. Without treatment and insurance, if I did have an attack I would have resisted going to the ER because of my fear it would bankrupt my family. My death would, no matter how the numbers are calculated, cost American society and not

somehow saved money. Every life counts, and the goal of lawmakers should be to ensure those lives are able to continue.

Instead, with insurance: I never cut back on my job, I have managed the condition and am slowly working towards recovering my health, I continue to pay into federal, state, city, and school tax systems. There's been no financial disruption in my family. My employer continues to reap the benefits of my 15+ years of experience and service to them.

Please, don't be cruel and hurtful and don't hurt the bottom line -- this bill will not save money, it will not help people, it will end up costing Americans in so many ways, for decades upon decades.

Thank you if you read this far, and thank you for your service to the nation and its people  
Helen Sheumaker, PhD  
Oxford, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Janet Schultz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy healthcare bill

My name is Janet Schultz and I am a voter from Newark Ohio. Our state is one of the top 10 unhealthiest states in the country due to high rates of smoking, obesity, opioid use and mental illness. The Affordable Care Act was a LIFESAVER to thousands in my community. It provided them preventative care like maternity benefits for the first time in their lives. Healthy citizens means a healthy country. I am proud of Governor Kasich for bucking partisan politics and expanding Medicaid at his political peril. This bill is THE WORST version yet and is being sold in VERY dishonest and dangerous ways. Saying 'NY and CA get all the money now' is wrong and plays into this destructive Red Vs Blue State narrative that Donald Trump promotes. Alabama and Texas, etc CHOSE to make a political decision NOT to take Medicaid expansion dollars, disadvantaging their weakest, most vulnerable citizens. Now this bill will disadvantage the 31 states that DID make the RIGHT DECISION by making all states operate under a terrible piece of legislation that will literally explode in 2027. All to score a political victory and let our 'Wreck-it-Ralph' President brag he did something. SAD!! Disgraceful. The Republican Party is moving our country backwards in every way just to placate some mysterious 'base' of right wing extremists who do not represent our country's majority opinion.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cookie Volpe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Finance Committee,

I live in Ohio and am strongly apposed to the repeal of the ACA. I am horrified that the Republicans once again are trying to rush through such an important bill without any public hearings. As an American we deserve better than this. There should be public hearings in which experts, not Republican politicians behind closed doors, are deciding such a big chunk of our economy and our health needs. You should be seeking the advice of the insurance industry, the AMA, hospitals, the nurses' association, experts in the field of mental health, experts in treating alcohol and substance abuse, etc. There should be a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not demolish it and put something horrible in it's place.

I am a Clinical Counselor who specializes in working with children who have mental health issues and their families. I can tell you how important it is to serve this population. To help these kids not grow up to be adults with serious mental health issues. I can also say that almost 100% of my clients are medicaid recipients.

As a 62 year old woman I want to know that I am unequivocally protected if I get sick. I want to know that myself, family, friends, and any American doesn't have to worry about getting sick or having pre-existing conditions. The worry and anxiety that the Republicans are putting us Americans through over healthcare is unconscionable.

I am asking that the Finance Committee do what's right and put America first. Stop these silly politics. Work in a bipartisan manner and give us good healthcare. Rename it whatever you like. Call it Trumpcare! Please realize that most of us Americans are not stupid.

Sincerely,

Silvana Volpe

[REDACTED]  
University Heights, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Robertson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Proposed Cassidy-Graham Bill

Dear Senators,

I am a constituent from Columbus, Ohio, and I would like to share my concerns about the proposed Cassidy-Graham Bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act. While I currently utilize healthcare coverage as provided by my spouse's employer, I am concerned about the changes that Cassidy-Graham mandates that will affect the scope of my insurance and the quality and affordability of healthcare in my region. Health insurance is a collective endeavor, as public health is as well. When part of our population suffers, we all suffer, either through increased costs, increased health risks, and a depressed local economy. Reducing coverage, increasing costs, and cutting the services that care for our most vulnerable citizens does nothing to ensure a healthy, robust America. Cassidy-Graham does nothing to assist our children, who risk a life of crumbling medical debt inherited as well as acquired, our disabled citizens, who rely on Medicare and Medicaid to maintain a healthy quality of life, our seniors, who are living in poverty and fear, instead of comfort and ease, as they deserve. How can the Senate be in the business of worsening the quality of life for so many? I urge the Senate Finance Committee to consider the true cost of Graham-Cassidy (increased suffering and instability) as well as the financial costs (skyrocketing premiums and deductibles, which will lead to generations of medical debt in the citizenry). Instead of using the pocketbooks of everyday Americans to squeeze out tax cuts or reductions in federal spending, why not hold pharmaceutical companies, health insurance companies, and service providers accountable for unjustly increasing costs and playing roulette with American lives? Help America recover from multiple health crises; don't tighten the noose.

Thank you for your time.

--  
**Jennifer Robertson**  
[REDACTED]

Columbus, OH [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rose Dodge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearings to examine the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal

Hearings to examine the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal  
Hearing date: 9/25/2017

It terrifies me that our government, a system meant to protect and serve the people, has deemed those very people unworthy of a critical protection: healthcare coverage. Healthcare coverage is not a privilege, it is a right. Without healthcare coverage, I will lose the right to see my doctor. Without healthcare coverage, I will lose the right to life-sustaining medications. Without healthcare coverage, I will lose my life; and I am not alone. Millions of others are in similar situations, some far worse. Would you deny a newborn neonatal intensive care services (NICU)? What about a child with a treatable disease? Would you deny your mother a life saving surgical procedure? What about your best friend? Your wife? Your husband? Your own child? You will be doing just that for millions of voting Americans if you pass this atrocity that has been proposed in place of true healthcare.

If there is so much wrong with the ACA, why not fix it, properly? Once upon a time people cared for each other enough to do what was right. Making the ACA a better program, a stronger program, one that will cover everyone is the right thing to do. Gutting it and tossing 32 million people to the proverbial wolves is legislated murder on a massive scale.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal scares me to my core because it means to strip away everything that has made survival for me and millions of others possible. Please do the right thing. Please vote no on The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

comicartist37@yahoo.com  
Rose A. Lyon

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Fairborn, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Melanie Donat [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** New healthcare bill

This bill will hurt the people of Ohio. My husband has Crohn's disease and is a small business owner. The ACA has saved us hundreds of dollars a month on our premiums and we have much lower deductibles. This new bill will bankrupt us. Our premiums and deductibles will skyrocket with this new bill. Stop what you are doing. Reach across the aisle...work with each other and FIX the ACA. The American people want you to FIX it!!!

Thank you,  
M. Donat

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rose Dodge [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearings to examine the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal

Hearings to examine the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal  
Hearing date: 9/25/2017

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comicartist37@yahoo.com  
Rose A. Lyon

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Fairborn, Ohio [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** sabrina jewell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Brown, Senator (Brown); Senator Kamala Harris  
**Subject:** Why Healthcare for all matters

Dear Finance committee-

As the outreach coordinator for a small senior community center, I work with elders 60 years and older or people with disabilities or chronic health conditions. It is imperative that we work collectively to create a universal health care plan that doesn't penalize those with pre-existing conditions, including mental health issues. We also need to ensure that the cost is reasonable for families with lower incomes as well as disallowing the pharmaceutical companies to set prices astronomically high on new medications that can be so beneficial to many people.

Please take the time to construct a reasonable health care plan for all of your constituents!

Sabrina Jewell  
[REDACTED]

PGP: She, Her, Hers, They, Them, Theirs  
Oxford, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Molly Shaw [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fwd: Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
September 25, 2017

Finance Committee,

The new healthcare bill is very concerning and is not an improvement over the past versions. What is perhaps most concerning is that the Senate would vote on it before the CBO report is ready. That is extremely irresponsible, especially because they would be doing it just to take advantage of the reconciliation deadline and to be able to pass it with fewer votes. This is a shady practice and totally disregards and disrespects what is best for the American people. As far as what is known about the bill, the cuts to Medicaid are quite troubling. As an employee of Cincinnati Children's Hospital, I see the faces of the youngest Medicaid dependents every day, and I don't know what would become of them without it. It is our responsibility to protect them so that they can grow up to lead healthy and productive lives. I urge you to consider these issues and not pass this bill.

Thank you,  
Molly Shaw

[REDACTED]  
Cincinnati, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marjorie Nadler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham Cassidy

Please oppose the Graham Cassidy health care bill. This is a cruel & misguided piece of legislation & it should not pass.

First, it does NOT fulfill the campaign promise. Trump promised to concurrently replace with a plan that covered more & reduced costs for consumers. This does the opposite. It leaves 32 million without coverage & coverage costs for those who can get it are much higher than now.

Second, it does not guarantee coverage for pre-existing conditions or prevent lifetime caps in coverage. The lack of these guaranteed aspects can result in death for thousands & bankruptcy for many more.

In addition, it is an attack on older Americans with dramatic increases in premiums & no guaranteed minimum coverage as exists now.

It is clear that the country does not support this legislation. Every major & minor health care group has come out to oppose this. The 50 state Medicaid directors are unified in opposition & warnings about consequences. Every study has warned of its dangers. By rushing & forgoing a CBO score, we have to rely on the studies out there & the experts agree this is a disaster. In addition, public opinion is solidly against this bill.

It hurts the most vulnerable & sets back the battle against opioid addiction. This is not the legacy the Republican Party should want to have. If Alaska has to be exempt from this to gain support, that should tell you how bad this bill is.

There are so many reasons to oppose this & no good ones to do such harm to our country in a last minute rush. Go back to working on bipartisan solutions to the real issues & abandon this bill.

Marjorie Nadler  
Ohio

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy will take way healthcare access from America's hardest working citizens

My wife and I are self-employed. Through my very small business, we have raised 3 children and sent them to college. We pay our taxes; we hire contractors; we contribute to the economy and are self-sufficient. We are living our version of the American Dream.

This is possible ONLY because of the ACA, because without it, healthcare insurance of any kind would be unavailable to us.

The new, proposed healthcare bill would take away this freedom from us. It would make individual health insurance either impossible or unaffordable to obtain. Going without health insurance would not be our choice; being older than 50, it would be forced upon us. Or we would be compelled to find work in a corporate sector that has already rejected us - simply to make sure that an unexpected illness didn't put our entire lives in financial jeopardy.

We are not alone. There are an estimated 20 million people who own companies like mine - contributing, being responsible, taking care of themselves - and the new healthcare bill would have the same effect on many of them.

Why does Congress want to do this to America's hardest working citizens?

**Bob Rosenbaum**  
owner, The MarketFarm  
Cleveland, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** christine zanoni [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Sarah (Portman)  
**Subject:** Against Healthcare Bill

I am writing to express my outrage that Congress may pass a bill that will hurt Americans. Graham-Cassidy should not be law because it doesn't serve the best interests of the people for whom you work. Please remember that. You are in office to represent us, not to act to please donors or industries.

I implore the Senate to oppose Graham-Cassidy. 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. Our state of Ohio would lose \$2.5 billion in federal funding because of this bill.

At the very least supporting the bipartisan, transparent process that Senators Alexander and Murray are leading through regular order would be a better option than supporting the Graham-Cassidy bill. I expect the Senate to respect regular order and reject the Graham-Cassidy bill if it comes to a vote.

Show you care about your constituents.

Most Sincerely,  
Christine Zanoni

[REDACTED]  
Cleveland, Ohio [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Amendment

This proposal goes back on so many of the promises made to the American people. My wife and daughter have preexisting conditions. They might be priced out of an insurance plan. Annual and lifetime caps are removed, which will increase or chances of going bankrupt if a catastrophic illness or injury were to happen. My daughter has autism. Her school will losing funding under the Medicaid cuts and it may not be there for her when she gets older.

The fact that this is happening without full committee hearings, expert testimony, and an explanation of what is happening to the American people is shameful. This is not the GOP that I admired when I was younger. It is a disgraceful attempt to push through a bill to make millionaire donors happy.

Sean McGurr  
Hudson, Ohio

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Brandi Downs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 8:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I write today in regards to the Graham-Cassidy bill, designed to make changes to the Affordable Care Act. This bill would be the financial ruin of many states, including the state in which I reside, Ohio. I ask that the committee vote not to send this bill to the whole of the Senate. The American people are counting on you.

The board of directors for the National Association of Medicare Directors issued a statement on the Graham-Cassidy proposal saying in part that, "[t]aken together, the per-capita caps and the envisioned block grant would constitute the largest intergovernmental transfer of financial risk from the federal government to the states in our country's history..." A report by Avalere Health found that 34 states in our union would lose funding for healthcare under the proposed bill, with my home state of Ohio estimated to lose \$161 billion in federal funding by the year 2036. This would have dire implications, not just for those set to lose their healthcare, but for every citizen in the 34 states that would lose funding. The financial ripple that Graham-Cassidy would cause could send those states, like Ohio, that are already struggling, into recession. What good does that do anyone?

I must also mention how very disturbed I am to see a matter that affects 1/6 of the United State's economy being rushed through without due process. There has not been enough time for the Congressional Budget Office to analyze Graham-Cassidy and present its nonpartisan findings to the legislative body and the American people. How can the Finance Committee, let alone the entire Senate body, vote on proposed legislation without a complete understanding of its implications for the financial well-being of our country?

Please, do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,  
Brandi Downs

[REDACTED]  
Marion, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marta Osuna [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the Senate of the Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. It has no place in our country and it will rob many hundreds of thousands of people of the medical care they so desperately need. One of those people is my 18 month old nephew, Aiden.

Aiden has a rare type of dwarfism called Spondylepiphyseal Dysplasia Congenita, or SEDc. He is completely dependent on machines to help him survive and live. While he is developing and growing very quickly, he will be reliant on those machines until at least 5 years old. He is learning to talk, and to wiggle, and to eat, all while having a tracheostomy and a ventilator and a g-tube and a feed pump, among other medical machinery. He gets various therapists coming to his house for his physical, speech, vision, and hearing therapies. This bill will ensure that he does not get the medical coverage this child so desperately needs. He is growing, and is loved by everyone he meets, and I ask that you find it in your hearts not to allow this bill to pass. It will be devastating to us and thousands of others if it does pass.

I live by the philosophy that we should love our neighbors and do what is within our capacity to help every time we have the opportunity to help. This bill does not support that philosophy. This bill will kill people because it prevents them from seeking treatment. It will kill my nephew if it passes. Please, don't let this bill happen.

Thank you from Utah,

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debbye Jackson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO vote on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

*Debbye Jackson*

Debra P. Jackson  
Executive Director

[REDACTED]  
Easton, MD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anna Muraco <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

My mom, who is 77-years old relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My mom recently had a stroke and I expect that her recovery will take months, if not years, during which time she will need home health care in order to be able to live independently. If healthcare costs rise, she may not be able to afford her daily care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anna Muraco

[REDACTED]  
Playa del Rey, CA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Noreen Vongrej <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 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.

Noreen Vongrej  
[REDACTED]

Bridgewater, NJ  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Zatz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve, not repeal

I believe in quality, affordable healthcare for all. 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, Diane Zatz

Philadelphia PA

*Diane Zatz*

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mercedes Maltese [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators:

I live in Oregon. Five years ago my son was 23 years old in his final month of receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Portland State University. He dove into the river, hit the sand with his head, and became an incomplete quadriplegic. We are grateful that he was still covered under his parents insurance. He will spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair and depends on good insurance to keep up the physical therapy needed in order to keep what function he has and to remain strong to complete his education. After his excellent physical therapy and his amazing determination, he was able to finish his degree and went on to Boston College, and just received his Master's in Philosophy & with a Theological Specialty, on a full scholarship. He is one of the people I am fighting for and I beg you to consider as you try to pass this bill.

The second person I am fighting for is my brother. He has severe delusional disorder (I am sure Congress has received plenty of letters from him concerning the FBI following him). It has been heartbreaking and emotional for me to get the needed services for him and to watch him decompensate. He CANNOT control this mental illness, he cannot control his thoughts, and he cannot work. Fortunately he finally qualified for social security, but before other Americans descend into the madness, GOOD MENTAL HEALTHCARE can help people if the symptoms are caught soon enough. His was not.

I have marched, I have called, and now I have written my story. Please consider people like my son, my brother, and millions of others like them into your vote and preserve & improve healthcare, not destroy it.

Thank you,

Mercedes Maltese

[REDACTED]  
Portland, OR [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tesi Kohlenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments for Graham-Cassidy hearing

**TO:** Senator Orrin Hatch  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

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

**FROM:** Teresa M. Kohlenberg, M.D.  
[REDACTED]  
Watertown, MA [REDACTED]

Dear Senator Hatch,  
Dear Committee,

I am writing to share my deep concern about the destructive potential of this bill.

My concerns are based in my working life as a pediatrician and child psychiatrist, from my personal life as a cancer patient, and from my family life as the mother of a disabled teenaged daughter, who has a complex genetic disorder which will require costly medical care throughout her lifespan.

This bill guts Medicaid as we know it, the program that would have supported my child's care long after I'm gone. Without that care she has a large chance of destructive episodes of brain inflammation that will cause her to lapse into dementia; with Medicaid-funded care she could continue to be a loving, fun, social person who can work and contribute and have a life.

This bill takes a problem that all the resources of the Federal government have not solved, and turfs it to the states, which do not have the financial resources or the specialized expertise to solve the challenges that have stumped the Federal government. The bill expects the states to come up with solutions to this thorny problems in a few short years, after which Federal funds will trickle off, leaving unmet needs.

This bill removes protections from the millions of our citizens who, like me, have pre-existing conditions, because it allows insurance agencies to charge absurd and impossible premiums for policies for those of us who are sick. Or who might be sick. Or who ever were sick.

Under the guise of "state's rights" this bill permits more poverty-stricken and, frankly backwards states to return to the old days when many needed health services were simply not covered, among them pregnancy care, cancer screenings, and habilitation services for children with disabilities. Since these are protected rights under the ADA and the IDEA, there will be endless lawsuits, which will drag on and on while vulnerable people wait without care.

This bill makes nursing home care unaffordable for poor and middle class elders.

This bill will force people with serious disabilities out of their homes and workplaces, by eliminating the funding for home supports and access to transportation that make productive and fulfilling lives possible.

This bill is a hoax, and it is terrifying that any thinking person — let alone a US Senator — would participate in its attack on our most vulnerable citizens. PLEASE follow Senator McCain's lead, and get back to working on bipartisan solutions to this very serious fiscal challenge.

Teresa M. Kohlenberg, M.D.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathleen Long <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Repeal & Replace!

Where is the CBO report? Millions of Americans will lose affordable health care. Vote NO!

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Heather McDougal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO NO NO Graham Cassidy Bill

This bill will put my family and I in serious jeopardy. Please, please, please vote NO on it!!

--

Art Director, Strange Horizons Magazine  
Author of *Songs for a Machine Age*

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharlene Rivers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:57 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.

Sharlene K. Rivers  
Portland, Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Luella Ramberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Don't Cut

Good Morning,

I would like to briefly share with you how Medicaid has made a difference in our family. My daughter is autistic and suffers from severe anxiety. She has been going to biweekly to weekly visits to a psychologist for three years. We have seen such a change! She can now tell the difference between herself and her anxiety! Impossible for her to even understand three years ago. Without the support of Medicaid we would never have been able to afford the co-pays and my daughter would be suffering!

Please as you consider go to the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017 , consider my daughter. Don't cut our support!!

Luella Ramberg

[REDACTED]  
Hammond, WI [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Vanessa Lauzon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing again to express my strongest possible opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have read about the newest additions, out this morning, which essentially include bribes to buy-out the "holdout" GOP senators. This is awful. As a physician, I'm deeply concerned about the funding cuts to Medicaid and the loss of protections for pre-existing conditions, which would affect ALL Americans, including those with employer-based insurance. This bill is a disaster.

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage, destroy Medicaid, and harm some of the most vulnerable members of our communities: children, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Vanessa Lauzon MD  
San Diego, CA [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nan Puppo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My husband, has a serious heart condition. He works full time. His pre-existing condition will make insurance impossible to afford. Two grandsons, premature twins, were in NICU for two months. They now have pre-existing conditions, that are covered under ACA. I had a serious accident requiring thoracic and spine surgeries. I am no longer able to work but have large medical bills.

Bipartisan efforts to address the problems of the ACA is the best answer for our country.

Graham-Cassidy is Trumpcare 3.

Lies, and shady meetings will make the history books. Your names won't ...just a generic 'Republican' for a party that self destructed out of greed and no respect for the laws governing our elected representatives.

Most Sincerely,  
Nan Puppo  
Bishop, Ca

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** David Dinnell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please improve the ACA, don't repeal it

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am one of the many million of Americans with a pre-existing condition that would be denied coverage. It is inhumane. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, David Dinnell  
Iowa City, IA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** davebrody <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy fails to "promote the general welfare"

To the Senate Finance Committee:

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, not for my own sake but for that of my neighbors. Many of the residents of my town depend upon provisions of the Affordable Care Act, which Graham-Cassidy would remove or curtail.

I believe it is essential for Members to undertake an earnest bi-partisan effort to improve the existing Affordable Care Act to. The Graham-Cassidy measure is not the result of such a bi-partisan effort. The Graham-Cassidy bill is not being forwarded subject to regular order; there cannot be appropriate debate, understanding and compromise unless it is.

Thank you for working in sincerity to "promote the general welfare." Graham-Cassidy does not live up to this Constitutional requirement.

Sincerely,

-David S. Brody  
Edgewater, NJ

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gordon, Jena <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Opposing Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a psychologist 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 or psychologist 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, and by decreasing access to mental health care, 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,  
Jena Gordon, M.A.*

The information in this e-mail is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed. If you believe this e-mail was sent to you in error and the e-mail contains patient information, please contact the Partners Compliance HelpLine at <http://www.partners.org/complianceline> . If the e-mail was sent to you in error but does not contain patient information, please contact the sender and properly dispose of the e-mail.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Suzanne Paradis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators

I am writing to you to urge you to vote NO on this healthcare bill. It is bad for everyone but healthy, wealthy Americans. The Medicaid cuts are going to leave our Seniors without access to adequate health care. Graham-Cassidy will once again make it virtually impossible for those with pre-existing conditions to get health insurance coverage.

We are the richest country in the world. We are better than this. Go back to committee and FIX the ACA. Stop playing chicken with people's lives.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Paradis PhD  
Associate Professor of Biology  
Brandeis University  
[REDACTED]  
Waltham, MA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** J H OBERNDORF [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It may Concern,

Quality, affordable healthcare is essential for my family. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My life, and those of my immediate and extended family, has many instances where quality healthcare has made a tremendous difference in our well being and financial health too. I had surgery at the beginning of this year for a badly broken wrist, and without my coverage would not have been able to receive surgery and therapy. My livelihood depends on being able to use my hand and wrist, and I'm grateful that I was able to go to specialist and receive the care I needed. I could continue to list multiple instances among family and friends- including long term cases of living with cancer (sister and mother-in-law) requiring care that would not have been possible without good insurance coverage. The current Braham-Cassidy bill is terrifying, to say the least. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours Truly,

Jordan Grauer  
Chicago, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy Dever <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family, friends and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Everyone I know will be impacted in some way be either Medicaid reduction, coverage caps, pre-existing conditions loss of coverage, disabilities, and affordability. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

--  
Amy Griffith Dever

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Registered Civil, Domestic and Family Mediator, Civil Arbitrator,  
Guardian Ad Litem, Attorney at Law

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Macon, Georgia [REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of YR [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy Graham Plan is a "no go"

Dear senate finance committee members -

As a citizen of this country, a voter of this state, and a human being, I adamantly oppose a bill which disenfranchises the most vulnerable members of our country and our community in order to save money for the insurance companies.

In July of 2015 I was laid off from a secure and well paying job so that the company could balance their books at the end of their fiscal year. I was on unemployment for six months and have not been able to secure a job with benefits to this day. I rely solely on the Affordable Care Insurance to cover my health care needs. Since 2015, I experienced my first real medical emergency which landed me in the emergency room to the tune of over 3,000. in bills because the hospital was outside the insurance provider delivery system. Who thinks of that when you are rushing to the nearest emergency room? Oh, let me check with my provider to see if this hospital is in the program!

In the emergency room, I was misdiagnosed, sent home with wrong medication and had several more excruciatingly painful attacks before finally getting the correct diagnosis from my GP at the Goodwin Community Health clinic, which was one of very few who accepted my affordable care insurance.

Now, I am a board member at Goodwin and support their mission, as they struggle to do good work for the community and include all members of community, not selecting which ones have good insurance and can pay all their fills in full. They provide exceptional support and will not be able to do this if this new bill comes to pass.

Please, be reminded that most of us who are not covered by the special health care of the few privileged elected officials, most of us are vulnerable to the winds of change, such as being laid off after decades of working and paying into all the taxes and other systems, like social security. Any one can become uninsured, any one can become ill, have an accident and then be bankrupted by the costly health care prices.

Not only should we NOT give this bill the slightest consideration but we should endeavor to work on insuring all of our citizens equally. Health is not a luxury, it is a right and a basic need. Every developed country in this world, and even Rwanda have universal health insurance. Canada and Cuba have universal health coverage. How is it possible that this highly developed and rich country is not one of these?

The time for universal health care has come. This is a unique opportunity to say no to private health insurance companies making obscene profits and save money and save people. Hundreds of researches, economists, doctors, health care professional have proved over and over again that universal coverage is the best way to insure health and to save money. We are treating our population at the ERs, which is the most expensive way possible. This is part of the reason that hospital care costs are skyrocketing. Economists argue that universal model is the most efficient. There have been numerous articles on the wastefulness of the current system.

You probably do not need reminding that NH is the top third in the nation worst opioid death statistics in the country. Young and old are dying and we are quibbling over cost. What are the costs of an entire generation of young people dying from something which is treatable and even preventable by educations, jobs, training, support, and good health care which covers not only the drug treatment [which is part of original problem] but also behavioral health, social net support, and community support programs? The cost of arresting a person is \$220.00 and the cost of referring the same person for treatment is \$50.00. [Union Leader article]

Please consider all those points, put yourselves in the shoes of the people who are going to be shut off from the care they need. These are your children, your grandchildren, your sisters, your mothers, your colleagues, your friends, your family, your neighbors, your community. How do we care for each other shows the type of person we are.

--  
Yulia Rothenberg, CF.APMP  
Business development, strategy  
Dover, NH  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Matt Lawrence <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Bauer, Tommy (Cantwell); Baumgartner, Kate (Murray)  
**Subject:** Statement on Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Honorable Senators and Committee: I urge you in the strongest terms to reject this proposal.

I have worked and saved, built a family and participated in community and school since I was seventeen years old. Almost five years ago I was hit by an uninsured driver while on my bicycle - It took almost two years of rehab after surgery to recover and try to get back to my life and my self-employment work. One morning as a result of one of the surgery events I woke up to a potentially fatal auto-immune condition called CIDP; rare and potentially completely debilitating. We have no idea how it vectored into my system, but it's there and I am in treatment for it for my life unless a cure is found.

I am only sixty-three years old and still actively seeking to continue my career. I love what I do. If this bill passes and your edicts on pre-existing conditions and lifetime limits becomes law (let alone any number of the other edicts), I and my family will undoubtedly be forced out of my house and my work, and eventually, succumb to the ravages of this disease. My kids will end their college endeavors and the psychological and emotional chaos resulting from this will have consequences we cannot yet forecast, but whose end is an easy guess.

Please stop this madness and work with every other member of Congress to enhance and bolster the ACA, and reduce the immense stress and anxiety you have created over and over again for those of us who stand to lose everything, including life, to your continued unwillingness to seek the best for all Americans.

Sincerely, Matt Lawrence

**Matt Lawrence**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**web:** [REDACTED]

**LinkedIn:** [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ilana Blatt-Eisengart <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern:

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 psychologist, I am acutely aware of the importance of coverage for behavioral health treatment. I work with a vulnerable population of children and teens with significant mental health concerns. Many of the children with whom I work 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.

Please rule against the Graham-Cassidy Bill, and then work on a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA.

Sincerely,  
Ilana Blatt-Eisengart, Ph.D.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** A Bipartisan Solution, Please!

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I  
rel  
y  
on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with  
pre-existing conditions  
is  
dire and I will not be able to get appropriate medical coverage if this new bill is passed.

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

Sincerely,

Bennett Yellin  
West Hollywood, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Margaret <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** complete opposition to ACA repeal, Graham Cassidy Heller

The most fundamental and valuable property of the Affordable Care Act is the protection it offers all Americans from fraudulent insurance products that do not provide health care access. This aspect of ACA is of value to anyone who might possibly need health care either now or in the future, whether currently covered by an employer's plan or not.

This bill rescinds requirements that conditions be covered by all basic plans that wish to call themselves health insurance. Protections for people who have ever required health care for a preexisting condition can be disposed of and thus the health care market will be inaccessible to large numbers of Americans.

This is a bad bill and I oppose it.

Margaret Edgington  
[REDACTED]  
Hillsboro, OR [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Miah Brawley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Thoughts Against the Graham-Cassidy Bill

As a second year medical student at the Northeast Ohio Medical University, with an interest in providing primary care services and women's healthcare to the under-served, I am shocked by the harmful policies proposed by the Graham Cassidy Bill. Passage of the Graham-Cassidy Bill will negatively impact my community and future patients by limiting coverage for the under-served, and directly decreasing access to women's health services.

By cutting medicaid expansion, Graham- Cassidy will leave many patients uninsured and once again unable to receive primary care. The surplus of uninsured patients will overwhelm the free clinics and emergency rooms leading to overworked healthcare workers and decreased efficiency and quality of healthcare in these settings. Additionally, these patients will lose access to primary care visits that stress preventative measures and effective management of chronic illnesses. Without access to the vital services of primary care, overall healthcare costs will likely increase due to pricey emergency treatments replacing cheaper preventative treatment methods.

If Graham-Cassidy were to pass, Planned Parenthood would not get payed by Medicaid for ANY of its services. This would inhibit Planned Parenthood's ability to provide important care for its Medicaid patients- Breast exams and Pap smears to protect under-served patients from deadly cancers, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases that can cause detrimental health complications and even lead to infertility, and family planning education to prevent unwanted pregnancies and abortions. Pro-life and Pro-choice can agree that by cutting Medicaid pay out to Planned Parenthood will negatively impact the health of mothers, sisters, and daughters throughout Ohio.

As a future primary care provider, implore you to speak out against and vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill in order to protect current and future under-served patients.

Sincerely,  
Miah Brawley  
Northeast Ohio Medical University  
M.D. Candidate 2020

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anna Howard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not pass this bill!

Hello,

I would like for my comments to be heard. I am a self-made CPA who has never needed special medical care. It does not mean I never will or that I don't care about other human beings' ability to receive it now. How can you call yourselves Christians or decent people while pushing through the law that will kill thousands of people by taking necessary medical care from them?

There must be a way you justify this to yourself to be able to sleep at night and look in the mirror without cringing.

I know people whose kids' lives were saved by Obamacare. How can you ignore that?

Please sign up for the same healthcare system you prescribe for the rest of the country. That is when you will truly care about it.

Regards.

Anna Howard

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Monkus <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:54 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 Graham-Cassidy-Heller Bill has not been properly scored nor adequately debated. It is opposed by every major medical association in the United States and has very little public support. Please do the right thing and reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller until better solutions to the questions of how best to provide health care and how best to regulate the health insurance markets can be designed.

Elizabeth Monkus  
Chicago Illinois

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ingrid Nagin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppsing Graham Cassidy

We opposes the legislative process of Graham Cassidy. You must return to return order in Congress. Not having hearing to determine how this concept of block granting the health care money to states will actually work is unconscionable! Integral to this block grant concept is capping.

For example in Pennsylvania;

• 503,798 adults with significant disabilities rely on Medicaid as well • 1.2 children with limited incomes

• 347,000 with limited incomes

How many of them will lose their coverage? Medicaid program is too significant to rush the legislative process. People with disabilities are especially vulnerable.

Also, to vote on a bill that has not been scored by the CBO, is too unconscionable!

Though Senators Graham and Cassidy have good motives in crafting this bill, let the entire Senate move together to ensure that ALL Americans have access to good health. Compromise is the strength of a democracy.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Ingrid Nagin and Werner Krupp, [REDACTED] Pittsburgh PA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deanna Bumbarger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 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.

Deanna Bumbarger

[REDACTED]  
Clearfield, PA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joanne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSITION

I completely OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill. This proposed legislation is NOT a solution to the healthcare issues in the United States. Instead, I support a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, not to repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Joanne Rokosky  
El Granada, California

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kay Hook <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote "no" on Graham-Cassidy.

Despite many of your colleagues assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves many of those with pre-existing conditions dangerously vulnerable. The precious children with Down Syndrome and Autism that my daughter has devoted her college career to serve will lose the ability to have affordable care in occupational therapy, speech therapy and physical therapy that they must have to function in today's world. Do we really want to relegate these children to institutions as was done in the less modern times, where they languish and don't become the contributing members of society that they are now?

What about the cuts to Medicaid that will place my parents and all the countless, vital 80+ year olds in serious danger of receiving the services they need?

The AMA, the 50 state directors of Medicaid, the American Heart Association, the American Heart Association, the American Insurance Association, Blue Cross, Blue Shield, the American ALS Association, the Cystic Fibrosis Association, Arthritis Foundation, March of Dimes and countless other organizations are imploring you to vote no for this bill.

I beg you to take all these vulnerable American citizens into account and vote no to Graham-Cassidy.

Thank-you,  
Kay Hook  
Texas

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Eve Wallace [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Medicaid assistance

I am writing to ask that you not reduce funding for citizens with disabilities. The Graham-Cassidy bill will hurt those least able to manage in our society. Thank you, Eve Wallace

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carin Berger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am deeply distressed about the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my immediate and my extended family members depend on the healthcare that we get through the Affordable Care Act. For some of us it is the first time that we could afford to get good coverage. Several of us have pre-existing conditions and disabilities that would be jeopardized by this new bill. My sister-in-law survived cancer in her teens, a kidney transplant in her twenties, and now finally, has good coverage. My brother has MS. My brother-in-law is bi-polar. There is not a family in this country that does not have someone with a pre-existing condition. Or a chronic illness. You are supposed to represent ALL of us and work in our best interest. I am hoping that Congress will work together in a bipartisan way to improve the ACA rather than repeal and hurt so many Americans in the process.

Sincerely,

Carin Berger  
New York, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sandra Weinberg <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill

Cuts to Medicaid could mean that my grandson will be unable to continue to do the things that has helped in progress. Harris has autism and significant vision impairments. Harris has many skills and with supervision is able to do a variety of jobs.. In the past two years he has volunteered at over eight non-profit agencies to help develop vocational skills. He works hard and makes steady slow progress but, he can be impulsive and does not have a sense of safety because of his vision problems. There is no question that Harris is able to work but needs help from others to perform duties.. Currently he is participating in a Medicaid-waiver program using the skills he has learned increases his independence and participate in community activities.

However, without the Medicaid waiver program his parents may need to leave their jobs in order to stay home and supervise him. With the continuance of the program Harris may be able to learn by working with others . Further, by using the program he is learning to communicate with other people, not his parents and develop a network of non-family members who he enjoys and who enjoy his. I urge you to continue serious bi-partisan discussion to strengthen our health care system with the goals of protecting Medicaid.

Thank you for your consideration

Sandra Weinberg

[REDACTED]  
Cherry Hill [REDACTED]

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hilary Robison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I turned 56 today, and like the great majority of folks over 50, I have had illnesses that might be considered "pre-existing conditions". I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Hilary K Robison  
Oakland, CA

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**Hilary K. Robison, LCSW**

[REDACTED]  
Burlingame, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deborah Fausch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care bill

To whom it may concern:

I would like to register my opposition to the health care bill as it is being currently proposed in the Senate. This bill will have serious negative impact on many many Americans in order to please a small number of very wealthy ones. It's immoral in its lack of coverage for basic health needs and pre-existing conditions, and it cuts funds for health care in order to please wealthy donors to congresspersons.

Congresspersons are elected to serve the majority of the population, not a few whose money makes them immune from the problems this bill would cause so many persons.

Please do not vote this bill into law.

Sincerely,

Deborah Fausch

Deborah Fausch  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Arlene Stein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am lucky enough to be healthy and to have insurance through my workplace but I have had family members who have many preexisting conditions, who would lose their insurance if Graham-Cassidy is passed.

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

Sincerely,

Arlene Stein

Jersey City, NJ



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Melissa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

I want to register my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care bill. This is yet another disastrous health care bill trotted out for the sole purpose of repealing the Affordable Care Act. The Graham-Cassidy bill would reduce federal funding for expanded healthcare coverage by \$26 billion immediately and by \$83 billion by 2026. The plan would also end the individual insurance mandate while requiring insurers to cover everyone, a combination of policies that have historically resulted in astronomically high premiums.

Let's stop playing games with our health care with these inane bills, and move on to a bipartisan approach to improving the ACA, not replacing it.

Melissa Mackey  
Lansing, MI

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I am almost fifty years old and, thanks to the ACA, was able to leave a stressful and no longer satisfying teaching career to start a small business with my husband.

We are both in fairly good health, but do have preexisting conditions that could be problematic in the insurance wasteland this bad bill will create for those without substantial wealth to fall back upon.

This continuous attack on healthcare is bad for the majority of the country. I would love to be able to focus my energy on building my small business and making my community a better place, instead of stressing about losing my health insurance or wondering if my elderly parents and in-laws are going to lose theirs.

The ACA is not perfect. Instead of trying to burn it all down, how about actually doing your jobs and working on a bipartisan solution to MAKE THE ACA WORK BETTER FOR EVERYONE.

Governing is hard. If you are not up to the task, perhaps you should step aside to make room for people who are willing and able to actually do the job.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Williams  
Grants Pass, OR

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lucas Allen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record  
**Attachments:** Interfaith Statement for the Record.pdf

Hello,

Please accept this statement for the record from the Interfaith Healthcare Coalition. The statement contains a letter signed by 3,000 faith leaders and another letter signed by 47 faith organizations opposing the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

Best,  
Lucas

**Lucas Allen**  
Healthcare Fellow



ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE, INSPIRED BY CATHOLIC SISTERS

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

NETWORK Advocates for Catholic Social Justice

25 E Street NW, Suite 200 | Washington, DC 20001

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Wilson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

People I know rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. You cannot put forth a bill that would revoke health care for millions of Americans--you ought not put forth a bill that revokes health care for even a few Americans.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Learn to work as a team for the betterment of our country. Start working together like adults for a common cause, not your own self advancement.

Also, listen to your constituents. Once folks start realizing that this "Obamacare" you threaten them with is actually the ACA on which they depend, you will find that not so many of them want to do away with it.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Wilson

Reading, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Lou Ramsey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is a long one because I have had severe health issues since I was in my 30's. Now, despite my healthy life style choices, I have 7 serious health conditions:

1. High blood pressure
2. Coronary artery disease (a stent was inserted in my LAD artery 2 years ago when I had a 100% blockage)
3. GERD
4. Fibromyalgia
5. Asthma
6. Depression
7. Allergies

I have another issue that could affect the price of my health insurance: I am 62 years old.

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

Sincerely, Mary Lou Ramsey

Stone Mt, GA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shyre Mann <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Hello!

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. I am a School Psychologist serving small, rural, public school districts in Wisconsin and see first-hand, on a daily basis, what families with significantly disabled children must face. Reducing or restricting, in any way, their access to quality health care or necessary long-term services is not in the best interest of these families, Wisconsin, or our nation.

The funds that school districts receive for providing some of these services during the school day are vital to ensuring equal access to the free and appropriate public education to which these students are entitled.

Please consider the voices of those who are unable to speak for themselves as you are making your decisions, and vote NO.

Thank you for your time.

Shyre Christensen Mann

[REDACTED]  
Eau Claire, WI

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Eric Saul <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy- Heller Proposal

Statement of Eric Saul ([REDACTED] Takoma Park, [REDACTED]) for the September 25, 2017, Senate Finance Committee Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller Proposal

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller health care plan. First, it dramatically cuts federal health care spending at levels so significant that the only possible outcome will be fewer people receiving coverage and care. My own state is projected to receive billions of dollars less in healthcare funding under this bill, which will wipe out any gains made through our expansion of Medicaid and our aggressive signing up of individuals through the Affordable Care Act's insurance marketplaces. For that reason, my state's Republican governor (along with a bipartisan group of governors from around the country) opposes this bill.

Even worse, the bill not only guts the federal funding associated with the ACA but it also fundamentally reorients the Medicaid program by turning it from an open-ended, needs-based program into one that has per capita caps. Senators may believe they have a mandate to repeal the ACA because they ran on a platform to do so, but you have no claim to such a mandate for this kind of a massive rewriting of Medicaid. Capping Medicaid payments will force states to tighten eligibility requirements and, therefore, force people off of the Medicaid rolls and into the ranks of the uninsured. For that reason, all 50 state Medicaid administrators oppose this bill.

Beyond funding concerns, Graham-Cassidy-Heller also undermines market protections put in place by the ACA. It removes the individual mandate, which is a key component to keeping the individual market functioning. The insurance pool needs healthy people in it so that their premiums offset the costs of services for those who are ill. Without the individual mandate, some healthy people will choose to forego coverage and leave the resulting insured pool disproportionately full of sicker people with expensive claims. That is not a sustainable position for insurance companies and will drive up costs for everyone. For that reason, all of the major insurance companies and associations have also indicated their opposition to this bill.

Beyond the individual mandate, Graham-Cassidy-Heller also allows states to waive critical (and very popular) ACA requirements on essential health benefits and pre-existing conditions. That leaves every American subject to the whims of their governor and state legislature to decide whether to allow their insurers to drop maternity care, cancer treatment, hospitalization or other crucial essential health benefits from their plans or to allow those insurers to start charging them much higher premiums for those services if they have a pre-existing need for them. For that reason, every major medical association, doctor and hospital association, and patients association also oppose this bill.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller is a fundamentally flawed piece of legislation that is being rammed through the Senate without sufficient debate or analysis. Senators are ignoring the clear and nearly unanimous opposition of medical and government experts, endangering the health and welfare of millions of Americans, and undermining the structure of one sixth of the US economy in order to meet an arbitrary, self-imposed deadline to show progress on a campaign pledge and please major party donors. That is not how government is supposed to work. Even the very existence of this "hearing", which was thrown together at the last possible second and is being held far too close to the vote deadline to have any substantive impact on the content of the legislation, is evidence of the sham legislative procedure being used to force this bill on the Americans without their input or consent. As such, I understand that this statement will have little to no impact on the debate surrounding this bill, but I want the formal record to reflect my opposition to it and my demand that the Senate put an end to this charade and turn its attention instead to a bipartisan, good faith effort to further improve the American healthcare system. =

Thanks,

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Kerrigan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham Cassidy

I stand firmly AGAINST the Graham Cassidy healthcare legislation. This obsession with 'repeal and replace' clearly shows that the health and well being of American citizens is not nearly as important to the politicians supporting this bill as erasing any meaningful progress made by the previous administration.

Now the very real life-and-death issue of healthcare has become a legislative shell game, making it impossible to fully understand in the time allowed. Shame on you for these appalling political tactics.

A bipartisan attempt to address this issue was trampled by the frenzy to get the partisan GCH to the floor. How unfortunate for all of us.

The ACA is not perfect -- you should have been finding ways to make it better.

God help us all if this represents the best this Congress has to offer.

Carol Kerrigan  
Proud registered voter  
Greenville, SC

“You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one.” — **John Lennon**



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nancy Devine <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill vote NO

I am writing to implore the US senators to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

The proposal would

- cap and severely cut Medicaid funding
- cause vulnerable children and adults to lose their coverage
- destabilize the health insurance market and
- make health care less affordable for those who depend on it most

By voting NO the United States senate will be standing up for health care.

As a health care worker I see first hand the needs of the poor and vulnerable. I am able to help more individuals because they have health insurance.

Please keep working for thoughtful solutions to health care reform.

Thank you,  
Nancy Devine

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karen Norkus [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** graham cassidy

I am fully against the passage of the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

It does nothing to assure that all citizens have available health care insurance. Leaving it to the states to decide who gets covered is not a good choice.

Fix the ACA, it can be done with bipartisan participation.

Karen Norkus  
Whispering Pines, NC

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ilene Kent <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** info@johnnyisakson.com  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing 25 Sep

Ilene Kent  
[REDACTED]

Columbus GA

My name is Ilene Kent and I live in Columbus, GA. Next year, I will be 64 years old. I have been a productive member of our society since I was a 14 year old kid with a part time job where I grew up. And I have been working ever since. I am single. It's been a struggle, and my IRA is in shambles because of my inability to find full time work during the economic downturn. I currently have a job that I love, but I am a contractor and am NOT offered insurance through my workplace. I have suffered from anxiety and depression which has been managed by reasonably priced medications. If there is no prescription benefit in the plan I will likely die - or go broke trying to afford meds. My sister had breast cancer - I am dependent on those mammograms and annual regular checkups. I just cannot for the life of me understand how any elected member of Congress could think that only the wealthy could afford health care. My depression (as well as orthopedic back and shoulder problems) would be considered pre-existing conditions. I paid \$334 per month for health insurance this past year. And now BCBS, thanks to the uncertainty in the health care market because of GOP elected officials, is leaving my state. \$334/month with a \$5000 deductible - so I've already paid out of pocket nearly \$2500!!! I desperately need hearing aids - not covered by any insurance. Seriously? It's ok for someone to be driving - but insurance won't cover this? It's high time we hold the insurance companies accountable. I have no problem paying more taxes (which I've paid every year I even earned a penny) so that a newborn can receive a heart transplant, or that chemotherapy is available not only to the wealthy. PLEASE keep in mind that this country was founded on the basis of LIFE, LIBERTY, and the PURSUIT of HAPPINESS for All, not just the wealth. I beg you - please do not vote for the Graham Cassidy bill. My life and well-being are dependent on YOU!

Respectfully,  
Ilene Kent

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jinx Howell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

ATTN: Editorial & Document Section  
RM SD-219  
Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6200

TO: Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden & Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Please oppose Graham-Cassidy. 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. Besides, Texas stands to lose \$11.9 BILLION!! That is something nobody should support!

Supporting the bipartisan, transparent process that Senators Alexander and Murray are leading through regular order would be a better option than supporting the Graham-Cassidy bill. I expect you to respect regular order and reject the Graham-Cassidy bill if it comes to a vote.

I lost my husband to leukemia in 2002. We were lucky enough to have insurance that covered almost all of his medical expenses. Until ACA came along, millions of American's did not have the same luxury. I am now a single mom to 4 beautiful children. I want them to have long and healthy lives. Unfortunately, they each have what would be considered a pre-existing condition. Leaving the states to decide if pre-existing conditions should be considered in healthcare is a gamble. Living in the state of Texas it is a gamble that I am not willing to take. If Graham-Cassidy should pass and the ACA be repealed millions who have health care now will no longer be able to afford it. Healthcare should NOT be a luxury! Affordable healthcare should be a right!

Jinx Howell  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Futz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save our healthcare!

Save our healthcare!  
Now!  
Graham/Cassidy is hateful.  
My father survives solely because of Medicaid.

Jonathan Cappel  
American Citizen  
Father  
Son of a WWII Veteran

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Scott Guthmann <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public comment opposing Graham-Cassidy bill

Senate Finance Committee:

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am unemployed and unable to afford healthcare for me and my daughter because I have no income. I gained access to healthcare through Colorado's Medicaid expansion. Without the Medicaid expansion, my 11 year old and I wouldn't have access to healthcare.

Alternatively, I would support efforts that would create jobs in all job sectors – not just construction. Through more jobs, employer sponsored healthcare would be earned as part of my compensation. \*Note - Tax cuts and repatriation of corporate foreign earnings increase income inequality, executive compensation, dividend payments, and share repurchases while doing nothing to create jobs. The Graham-Cassidy bill is yet another scheme to funnel more and more to the wealthy – just like most other tax cuts / tax reform. Please stop subsidizing dynastic wealth and corporatism!

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

Sincerely,

Scott Guthmann  
[REDACTED]

Denver, CO  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jill Helbling [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I have a pre-existing condition - a congenital heart defect - and this amendment will make my health care too expensive. It removes protections for people like me that make our health insurance affordable and without those protections, people like me will die. I cannot understand how anyone - anyone - could vote for this. Even one single vote for this amendment is offensive - it is literally a vote to kill people. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for even considering it.

Jill Helbling

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alexandra Lowe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** kirsten.gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: Illness is a Hurricane, Personally and Financially

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra D. Lowe Esq.  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Chuck Hoffhine <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Bill

Come on folks- not a good job here. Rushing through a bill where costs and results are generally unknown is shameful. Take your time, do it right, work together.

Charles E. Hoffhine

[REDACTED]  
East Hampton, C [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Swern <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Terrified

As a Coloradan who at this exact moment is sitting in a hospital waiting room to have an MRI of my brain, I feel terrified - not of the procedure or the possible results, but of how Graham-Cassidy could take away my medical coverage at a time I need it most.

I have Health First Colorado insurance, our state's Medicaid plan. I am injured (from a wave at a beach in New Jersey) but not disabled. I switched careers and (unfortunately) my reduced income helped qualify after my excellent Obamacare premium skyrocketed.

I not only had to fly back to Colorado in order for any care to be covered, but I am still getting very expensive tests done to make sure my 3 broken vertebrae and tear in my rotator cuff don't need surgery. I don't know when I will start and for how long I will need Physical Therapy, Massage (for the whiplash) or other treatments. I am not taking any medication because that doesn't fix the problem.

So my question is: if this bill passes, can you guarantee me (and millions of others like me) that my state will continue to offer Medicaid as an option based on financial need, not disability? Will the block funding be adequate (Governor Hickenlooper says it won't)?

If you cannot, then I am terrified beyond belief at a time when I should be calm and hopeful.

Respectful  
ly,

Susan Swern  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary Rose Brusewitz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: Current health care proposal

In reviewing further developments I am particularly concerned that at the federal level attempts to get votes for this terrible federal level bill seem to include making health care opportunities better in one or more states over one or more others. This in order to get votes for a bill that would be catastrophic for many. Pork and sausage are what they are but this is patently unfair and an abuse of human rights to health care.

Sent from my iPad

> On Sep 25, 2017, at 8:49 AM, Mary Rose Brusewitz [REDACTED]@com> wrote:

>

> To whom it may concern:

>

> I am a resident of NY State. I believe forcing a vote prior to appropriate levels of information is irresponsible and potentially catastrophic. I understand the need to arrive at a feasible solution to ensure health care for all citizens. The current proposal does not appear to do this. Please consider a bill to fix specific issues with the current healthcare system and avoiding naming healthcare systems after presidents. The political maneuvering is understandable but senators and congress people should endeavor to put aside their reelection possibilities for a change and consider the humans they represent. At least let the facts be known and listen. Bravo to have a comment period or procedure. About time.

>

> Warm regards

> Mary Rose Brusewitz

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Charles Spiegel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on health care repeal.

I'm self employed and get coverage thru affordable care act and deeply resent these proposals to block grant money and punish states like California. Firm NO.

Thanks for tallying my concern.

Charlie Spiegel, Esq.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ken A [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it doesn't address the problem at hand. To vote for any bill just so you can pat yourself on the back and say "we finally did something", disgusts me, and should disgust you as well. The AC has fixable issues. This bill just makes things much worse. It actually penalizes states that expanded Medicaid, and rewards those that didn't. You call that a healthcare bill? It sounds more like a vendetta to me. If passed it will become a never ending political football. Every gubernatorial election will be do over on healthcare. This needs to stop now. Get off of your asses and do your jobs! How you can continue trying to deny healthcare to the citizens of this country while you make sure you have the best care available is sickening. Vote NO! Get to work doing more than supporting the division of our country and the death of its citizens due lack of affordable health care.

If you already plan to vote no. Thank you. Otherwise get to work to improve things. Bringing destructive is easy and quite frankly childish. Making positive change is difficult and takes guts.

Ken A  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Joshua Shulman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No

This is a terrible bill, going through a terrible, undemocratic process. You're calling it "reconciliation," but in fact you're using that process to try to repeal a bill. You're doing it without adequate hearings or information. We know that it will leave millions more uninsured. We know that it will make our lives scarier because it will make it easier for insurance companies to raise our rates or take away our insurance mid-year or even mid-illness.

Please vote no.

Joshua Shulman

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jessica Swartz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not repeal the ACA

Dear Senate Finance committee,

I am writing to ask you to keep the ACA intact, and find a bipartisan solution to fix its deficiencies and flaws. The ACA is not perfect, but it has greatly improved access and care for millions of Americans. Health care is not a political issue. It is not a normal market, and cannot be handled as such. Different countries in many developed markets have found workable solutions to providing health care to all of their constituents. On top of that, they spend less money and have better outcomes than the US. It is simply untrue that these countries have failing health systems; the data do not support it. No system is perfect. All systems involve trade offs. But that is OK - don't let perfect be the enemy of good. It is not fair or reasonable to let blind ideology guide one's "feelings" on healthcare. If we simply start with what works in other countries and how it aligns with the ACA, we can find doable solutions that will improve our care and save us money. That should be a Republican and Democratic goal. It just makes sense.

There are sensible Senators working together to find a bipartisan solution. Why is congress trying to block this laudable work in the name of ideology? If your constituents elected you to do this, they did so because they were fed false, partisan information for too long. Stop this madness. Government exists to protect its citizens. Providing health care is a basic protection. We don't choose to get sick. We don't choose to need help. Healthy citizens are working citizens. Healthy citizens are productive citizens. Our Veterans rely on you. Our disabled, old, young, and sick rely on you.

Stop this madness, come together, and do the right thing. Please stop destroying our country. We need to help each other, not tear each other down and apart in the name of ideology. This is not what America is. This does not make America great. It makes America a global joke and shame.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Swartz

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA comment

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I do not understand how it is feasible for Congress to vote on bills before any associated cost impacts have been made available. This is not good governance.

Sincerely,  
Tim O'Toole  
Jersey City NJ [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bryan Waters <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Vote No on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Bryan Waters, BS  
Channel Marker, Inc.  
County Manager  
Talbot County  
[REDACTED]  
Easton, Md [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary Renard <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy testimony

Dear Senators,

I am a family doctor, and I am writing to voice my **STRONG OPPOSITION** to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I care for people of all ages, including many with chronic health conditions that would no longer be *assured* of equitable insurance coverage if this bill passes. My patient population includes a lot of small business owners and entrepreneurs -- many of whom did not have health insurance prior to the passage of the Affordable Care Act. They have greatly benefited from the ACA.

On a personal level, I have a daughter who graduated from nursing school, started work as an RN, and then developed a chronic painful illness which affected her ability to work. She is a *terrific* nurse! Thanks to the health insurance exchanges established by the ACA, she has been able to continue to work limited hours, while still getting the medical care she needs. She is a productive, tax-paying member of society, thanks to the ACA -- without it, she might very well be on disability. I am terrified that she could lose her coverage and then be declined coverage -- or offered coverage that would cost more than she'll ever earn.

The Affordable Care Act has plenty of areas where improvement is needed. To repeal and replace it with Graham-Cassidy, however, is a leap in the wrong direction.

Please kill this bill, and let Sens. Patty Murray and Lamar Alexander resume their efforts to find an enduring bipartisan solution that will help my daughter, my patients, and all Americans.

Thank you,

Mary Renard, M.D.  
Reston, Virginia

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Katie Paul [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO vote on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

Katie R. Paul, BA  
Residential Director

[REDACTED]  
Easton, MD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sarah russell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We have 4 growing kids. My husband and I work for ourselves. We need the ACA to provide for our family. Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sarah Russell

[REDACTED]  
Cumberland, ME [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ed Frim <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham Cassidy bill

I just wanted to share some very brief stories.

I travel the country visiting synagogues on behalf of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. I have met amazing people, who have been able to contribute to their communities, and live lives full of meaning that enrich those around them. Much of this has been due to the support they receive through Medicaid, and their ability to secure adequate health insurance.

I have learned so much -

From the woman in Minnesota in a motorized wheelchair, with an optical interface that allows her to control it and to speak with a voice synthesizer. She is an active member of her congregation's Inclusion Committee, speaks at religious services, and adds wisdom and joy to her community.

From the man in Rhode Island who helped create his congregation's inclusion plan, even though he had to speak through an iPad because of his disability.

From the woman in New York who has lost her sight, but continues to serve as a docent at the local art museum, for both sighted and visually impaired patrons.

From the young woman in Washington, D.C. with autism who works as an advocate for others, and shared unbelievable wisdom and knowledge with me.

From the six young men in a group home in Chicago, who volunteer across their neighborhood and are able to help others.

From the developmentally disabled adults in New Jersey who worked every day in a program that allowed them to create the most amazing artwork that they sold to help support them, and to benefit their program.

From the young man in Texas who is able to help lead religious services each week in his synagogue.

From the parents of the boy with autism in Pennsylvania who has been successfully integrated into his religious school classroom. They yearn to give him a life of meaning, where he will be able to live independently and productively when he becomes an adult.

And I could go on and on.

The proposed bill would gut the support that allows all of these people to live fulfilling lives, and to contribute in very significant ways to their communities. Please do not destroy the lives of these people and their families. Please do not take them away from our communities.

*Edward Frim*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Diane Baumgart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham cassidy Bill

I stongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. I have a neurological condition and spinal funsion that has excluded me from long term care insurance. My daughter-in-law is a brain cancer survivor with cancer induced attention deficit and short-term memoriy loss. I was born with my disorders and worked since 16 til retirement. Yet I am an insurance high risk person. My daughter-in-law was diagnosed at 39 and she is in a high risk insurance category. Like floods, hurricanes, earthquakes health impairments happen through no fault of our own. the federal government passed a massive FEMA bill and yet you chose to not insure our health?

finally, prior to the ACA our four person family was deemed uninsurable. Why? My two elementary aged daughters had asthma. In the land of insurance asthma is given 10 points in terms of insurance risk and 20 points leads to uninsurable. Both these children were on medication. Neither of them had EVER had an emergency trip to the doctor or emergency ward. Both have outgrown their asthma. YET 27 insurance companies declared us insurable in the two states where we had job offers.

I find the Graham-Cassidy a bill ill conceived and more a revenge bill than a health care bill.

this bill should not be apssed in any form.

Diane Baumgart  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Roger Strickland [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** healthcare bill

To eliminate opposition, make sure the new bill addresses the Community Reintegration Act, so that disabled people do not get corralled into nursing homes, but have the option to receive cheaper services in the community. Also, do not eliminate the pre-existing conditions in the new bill. If you work with the disability community on these issues, you have a good chance to pass the new law. Without dealing with the disability community you will have a hard row to hoe.

Sincerely,

**Roger Strickland**  
Center for Disability Rights  
Director of IT  
Center for Disability Rights  
[REDACTED]  
Rochester, New York [REDACTED]

**We Share the Air!** Center for Disability Rights is a Scent Free Environment. We ask that all individuals, including guests and consumers, refrain from wearing scented products at our offices, program locations, and events we host in the community.

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Erik Higgins <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Thank you,

*Erik Higgins*

Erik Higgins  
Employment Specialist  
Channel Marker, INC

[REDACTED]  
Easton, MD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rich Sperling <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Honorable Senators,

I urge you to vote NO on the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. If passed, that bill would do great harm to many of America's most vulnerable citizens.

I know this from experience. I am the parent of a young woman with autism and epilepsy.

Her medical needs over the past 30 years have far exceeded my ability to pay. We have been fortunate to have Samantha, our daughter, covered by health insurance. When she lived at home with us, she was covered under the family health insurance. When she needed to move into a group home for people with disabilities, the agency that runs the home required that she enroll in Medicaid. Even with Medicaid, we've had to retain her private health insurance because there are things that Medicaid just doesn't cover.

Our daughter Samantha is one of the lucky ones; we are able to provide her with needed health care using a combination of Medicaid and private health insurance. Many others are less fortunate and have no way to get health care without Medicaid. If Graham-Cassidy becomes law, those people will suffer greatly. That would be a shameful way for this great country to treat its most vulnerable citizens.

Again, I urge you to vote NO on this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Sperling  
Evanston, Illinois

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nina Gegenheimer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act

Here's my story. My family relies on QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE. Because of this, I am in opposition to the passing of the Graham Cassidy bill. My husband and I are nearing retirement and will need to rely on Medicare. Like so many other Americans, we will be living on a fixed income and will need to watch all of our expenses, of which healthcare will probably be the highest we will face.

We are legal guardians of a family member with special needs who lives out of state, who has relied on Medicaid for years and will continue to do so. My late father relied on Medicare as does my elderly mother now. Our adult daughter was born 33 years ago with a congenital heart defect and after several small procedures, underwent open heart surgery to partially repair some of her problems at the age of 9. We have an adult son and a young adult niece who were both diagnosed at very young ages with Juvenile Diabetes, which will affect them for their entire lives. This is just the story of our family and ours are only some of the MILLIONS OF LIVES who will be impacted by the decisions made by all of you. You hold our futures in your hands-treat us as you would your own family members. We need and deserved QUALITY AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!!!

Sincerely,

Nina Gegenheimer, Oak Park, IL.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richard Clark <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill

So this bill sets up 50+ different healthcare plans! How moronic is that!?  
Richard Clark  
Shoreline, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** scdd@scdd.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Graham- Cassidy Health Care Bill.

To whom it may concern,

California will lose 56 Billion, will be taken away to those who need health care the most. My son, Farrand Keefer, age 32 depends on the healthcare that is provided to him. He has a congenital heart defect, suffers from grand mall seizures. Without the appropriate Medicaid Healthcare, it literally will be a life or death situation for him. Farrand was born with Down Syndrome and Autism. He overcomes challenges each and every day, with an undiminished spirit joy and optimism.

Farrand is unable to advocate for himself, but as his mother, I urge you, please do not vote yes on the proposed bill. It will have a devastating effect on Farrand and millions of others that depend on Medicaid.

Thank you in advance for doing the right and just action by voting NO on the Graham- Cassidy Health Care Bill

Willie Keefer

2014 Domador, San Clemente, CA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tory Borovsky [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 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 effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Tory Borovsky

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Johanna R [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony for Graham-Cassidy hearing

September 25, 2017

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have struggled with chronic illness for a large part of my life. I had to retire early from my teaching job, partly due to my health problems, leaving me with a very small retirement pension. Since then, I have become more disabled by my chronic condition. If I didn't have Medicare and a supplemental insurance, I'd be in much worse condition. If pre-existing conditions were not covered, I might not have been able to work at all. If I hadn't had an affordable health plan while I was working, I'd be in worse shape. I very much want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, NOT repeal it.

Johanna Halbeisen

[REDACTED]  
Northampton, MA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bonnie Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal September 25, 2017

B. Smith

[REDACTED]  
Jefferson MD [REDACTED]

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible.  
Those who vote "yes" on Trumpcare will be remembered in the next election and history books as anti-American.  
The medical profession is against it as are the majority of the voting citizens in this country.

Kill this bill.

Sent from my iPad



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Klein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Public testimony:

I

rely

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

As someone with multiple pre-existing conditions and a deep belief in the universal right to decent, affordable, and equitable healthcare

for all Americans,

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

Sincerely,  
Emily Klein  
New York, NY

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy

This is a disaster that will set us back decades in our efforts to ensure people with disabilities have access to adequate health care and can live in the community, outside of institutions. I urge ask Senators to vote against this, if for no other reason that it upends all Senatorial protocol for ensuring that something as complex as health care reform does no harm!

Jerry Costley

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Kahane <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy

All Americans need and deserve quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I was lucky enough to have Medicaid when I was down on my luck. Without it, a broken arm would have prevented my returning to work as a productive citizen.

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

Sincerely, Lisa K  
LISA KAHANE | photographer | [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Greg and Amy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy NO!

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, and would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE ACA, not repeal it or "replace" it.

Amy Gibbs  
Grand Junction, Colorado

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Corr, Angela [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

For the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Graham-Cassidy Bill would be devastating. This bill largely impacts children on Medicaid which is what many children at St. Jude have as their primary insurance. Without Medicaid, these children won't get the medical care needed once they return home. It is imperative that children who have medical needs get the appropriate healthcare. This bill would not ensure that.

Angela Corr, PT, DPT  
Physical Therapist  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Memphis, TN [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Consultation Disclaimer: [www.stjude.org/consultationdisclaimer](http://www.stjude.org/consultationdisclaimer)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ryan Burke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a freelance artist who does not get insurance through work. I won't be able to afford health insurance if it becomes any more expensive. The cost is already a burden each month. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Ryan Burke

Brooklyn, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ceressa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Rejecting Graham-Cassidy bill

to: GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov  
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.

ACA and Medicaid came into play for my family after our 19 year old son suffered a catastrophic brain injury in a car accident where he remained in a coma for 10 months. We have private insurance with Anthem PPO. The ACA guidelines and laws allowed us 10 months to hope and fight for recovery for Andrew even though he showed little to no progress (he was in a vegetative state) he was in 4 different hospitals for different treatments. He underwent 7 brain surgeries and countless scans, tests and other treatments and transfers. Towards the end, when it became clear that there was no hope, he was transferred to a long term rehabilitation hospital close to home until he passed away 4 months later. Medicaid came into place because, even though we had private insurance and were financially fortunate, Medicaid was needed because of the type of injury. Cottage hospital, the long term hospital would NOT admit him without it in place. It was his secondary insurance to become his primary once his primary ran out and we became unable to self-pay (they won't admit you as a self-paying patient by the way) They need Medicaid in place because some injuries, illnesses and disabilities required due to the fact that the money at some time will run out before the illness, disability, etc. If you take Medicaid away from people that need it—you are harming them, some, you are ending their life. If it hadn't been for ACA and Medicaid we wouldn't have had the chance to do all we did for our son. ACA guidelines come into play for ALL of us. You senators included. Our insurance that Andrew was on was the same insurance most of his doctors and surgeons had also. Does it need fixing, yes and we all agree on that. But boy, it works when you need it the most and ALL of us could one day, need it the most.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ceressa Kunz  
[REDACTED]  
Paso de Robles, CA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jerry Manoukian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

We are physicians in the San Francisco Bay Area. We see patients who have been deemed "uninsurable" because of pre-existing conditions. We have also been in the position of being uninsurable at any cost.

Our healthcare system is vital and should be expanded toward universal coverage, not away from it. That any conceivable replacement should be considered without proper analysis is reckless, and literally sickening.

Do not pass this Graham-Cassidy bill.

Jerry Manoukian, MD Mariam Manoukian, MD, PhD

[REDACTED] Mountain View, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Phillips [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop Graham Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Sarah Phillips. My mother had three different cancers. Doctors predict I have a 40% chance of getting cancer. I already have MS.

I rely on the government's mandate that health insurance companies provide Obamacare's essential benefits and do not charge people with pre-existing conditions more than the general population.

Without health care, I could not afford my medication. It costs about \$20,000 a month. Without medication, I have a 75% of becoming immobile or worse in 10 years and would likely become a burden to society instead of the contributor that I am now.

The unknowns in Graham-Cassidy are too many and could very possibly kill me. Please do not pass this terrible bill.

Sincerely,

Sarah Phillips

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Liz Burke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO vote on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Burke BA*  
Dorchester County Manager  
Channel Marker Inc  
[REDACTED]

\*\*\*\*\*

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Brüss <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH

To whom it may concern:

Briefly, here is how the Graham-Cassidy bill would adversely affect my family:

- My husband and I have adopted daughters who were severely traumatized before age five when we adopted them. They are now age 23. Health care, including mental health care is essential. Because state would have the option of dropping pre-existing condition protections, their health could be severely jeopardized due to their diagnosis of PTSD.
- My husband is self-employed and we are recovering from his company's construction business that went bankrupt four years ago. We cannot afford to buy health insurance for our daughters, and only now recovering from high premiums, deductibles, etc., accrued over the last several years.
- My son, who is self-employed and his wife, who works part-time, depend on Medicaid for their daughters and for pre and post natal care. The mother has high blood pressure, which made her pregnancies high risk, and the girls have their own pre-existing conditions, including hearing loss and hips that didn't form correctly. If my daughter-in-law had not had proper care, there is a good chance that she would have died.
- I have several pre-existing conditions due to a spinal injury at age one. As of 2017, I am on Medicare, but previous to that and previous to Obama Care, our medical insurance was very expensive, and my husband didn't dare shut down his struggling construction company because I would not have been able to get medical coverage. Our first year of coverage through Obama care was subsidized, which saved our family from financial ruin. Anyone in the position that I was in several years ago would be severely affected by the Graham-Cassidy bill.
- My husband, despite his healthy and active life-style, has pre-existing conditions: including high blood-pressure, back pain, knee pain. He has worked 60 hours per week over the past several years, keeping our family afloat.
- There are numerous other things at stake: I do not trust my state (NH) to make the right decision concerning pre-existing conditions; NH would lose millions in subsidies, putting my family and thousands at risk; and my daughter, who is in school and makes less than \$15/hour, cannot afford her employers health coverage.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Brüss

[REDACTED]  
Concord, NH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Jhueck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA Repeal

No No NO on Graham-Cassidy. Please do not destroy the ACA. We need it.

Sincerely,  
Diane Jhueck  
[REDACTED]

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i

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachel Corwin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill

Good morning,

My partner and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions and affordability is simply this:

About five years ago, my doctor noticed my blood work indicating an under active thyroid. I take medication each month regulate this or my thyroid could seriously go out of whack. So, I have a pre-existing condition and need to keep this in check through regular check-ups and my daily medication.

This past year, I decided to leave my corporate job and launch a business where I have a direct impact on people's lives through organizing their home and workspaces. I've been entrepreneurial since I was a child and this was the time to follow my dream of doing this work and working for myself. I absolutely feel like this is the work I should be doing. Part of being self-employed is having to handle all my own taxes and healthcare. It is critical that healthcare remain affordable for people like me who simply cannot afford to buy direct from the carriers - I need access to Washington's Medicaid (Apple Health) so that I can keep my pre-existing condition in check, remain as healthy as possible, and keep doing this wonderful work.

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

Sincerely,

Rachel Corwin

Seattle, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Enzor - Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I implore you on behalf of the millions who's lives will be disrupted or even devastated by this bill to stop this partisan railroading of such a sensitive and important issue and to enact a thoughtful and comprehensive process to get to a sensible and humane solution to our healthcare crisis. Americans deserve better from their government.

Sincerely,  
Julie Enzor-Wilson

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Rushkewicz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not pass this healthcare bill

Hi,  
I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have pre-existing conditions and need maintenance medication to continue to work. I am a substance use and mental health counselor, so I also see first hand how important maintenance medications are to my clients. Discontinuing or interrupting their care, whether it be doctors visits or medication, would literally hurt their ability to continue to pay rent, work, remain stable. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julie Rushkewicz  
Chicago, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Babi Satzman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Michael Kochler  
**Subject:** "In opposition to Graham – Cassidy"

Passing this proposed Bill will continue discrimination against people with disabilities. Even if it is including pre-existing conditions, it is doing so at a tremendous cost to the individual. People with Disabilities are usually impoverished to begin with, so they still will not be able to get coverage.

Forcing people to go without insurance, Medicaid or otherwise will re-institutionalize people with disabilities which ends up more costly to the government, i.e. the taxpayer in the long run.

Vote NO on Graham – Cassidy!

**Babi Satzman**  
**Manager**  
**Options/CDPAS**  
**Independent Living, Inc. & Independent Home Care**

[REDACTED]  
**Newburgh, NY** [REDACTED]

**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
**Fax:** [REDACTED]  
**Video Phone:** [REDACTED]  
**e-Mail:** [REDACTED]

Independent Living, Inc. is a consumer directed, cross-disability organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for persons with disabilities. Our vision is a barrier-free society with opportunities for all persons to achieve their maximum potential.

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maggie Germano [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please don't repeal the ACA!

Hello,

I am an American citizen who fully supports the protections of the Affordable Care Act. The repeal of the ACA and passage of the Graham Cassidy Bill will only hurt Americans and drive up costs. We deserve to have affordable healthcare options regardless of our income status, our employment status, or our health status. As someone who would be viewed as having pre-existing conditions, I would be at risk of not getting adequate healthcare coverage if this bill passes. I also should not be at the mercy of my employer or my state government just because of their political or personal beliefs. ALL Americans deserve quality, affordable healthcare. No one in this great country should have to die just because they are poor.

Please, do not move forward with this bill. Preserve and IMPROVE the Affordable Care Act.

Thank you.

Best,  
Mary A. Germano

--  
**Maggie Germano**  
[LinkedIn](#)

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** S Conley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

My name is Stephanie Conley, and I live at 4718 Westminster Drive in Raleigh, NC. I have a 31-year-old Autistic son, Alex Conley, on full disability who relies on Medicaid. Alex is also diagnosed with ADHD-combined, general anxiety disorder, anxiety, and depression. Alex needs to see a neuro-psychiatrist regularly as well as additional visits during times of crisis, which he could not afford without Medicaid. He currently has 6 prescriptions, which he also cannot afford without Medicaid. In the past 5 weeks, Alex has spent 4 weeks in the hospital for crisis control, with two separate hospitalizations, lasting 3 weeks and 1 week. He has undergone multiple ECT (shock) treatments during his hospitalization. These treatments would not be possible without Medicaid, and without these treatments, Alex would be a danger to himself and others.

Please do not cut or end these vital Medicaid services. They are absolutely vital to families like mine. Alex did not ask to be born with Autism, and he relies upon government aid to deal with this issue. If you cut or eliminate his services, I do not believe Alex will survive, and it will endanger the safety of me and my family members as well. Also, because of the stabilization afforded by Medicare, Alex is trying to become a productive member of society by entering a Vocational Rehabilitation program that will enable him to work part time to cover his housing expenses. Thus, Medicare not only helps its neediest citizens cope with disability, but it also allows those disabled citizens to give back to society. It is a win-win, so please do not harm Medicare in any way. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Conley

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** darren galbraith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

To whom it may concern,

Please do not vote for this bill. It is no better than the bill that they voted down on the Senate. Healthcare is not an issue to play around with considering that people's lives and welfare are at stake. The only way that healthcare will improve in this country is if a bipartisan bill is drafted. I am tired of the fighting between Republicans and Democrats; it does not matter who wins or who loses or who is in power. When bipartisan measures are not taken, we all lose. Please do the right thing for the people of this country, and understand that it is not about your party affiliation, it is about the people of this country. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Darren Galbraith

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** alan halperin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will undo many of the patient protections included in the ACA. I understand that the ACA is flawed, but the remedy should be to fix the ACA, not to repeal it and cause many of us to lose health insurance.

alan halperin

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anthony Mann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote NO on Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Myself and millions of others including loved ones close to me will be adversely and irrevocably even fatally affected by Trump Care setting back the humanitarian advances of Obamacare-flaws and all-especially when it comes to pre-existing conditions. It's high time medical care and costs should be treated as a service and right excluding no one as opposed to the commodity and privilege it largely is now ; and also time Big Pharma and the big Insurance companies lining their pockets at the expense and misery of others take a backseat or clear out altogether. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Ideally, realistically Single Payer for all.

Sincerely, Anthony Mann  
NY NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kim Lednum [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

Kim Lednum  
Billing/IT Coordinator  
Channel Marker, Inc.  
[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Miriam Kagan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Constituent feedback: NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to provide input on the proposed Graham-Cassidy repeal and replace of Obamacare bill.

I am strongly opposed to this bill and would urge the committee to consider the negative and potentially financially and health devastating impacts it would have on people like me.

With this bill, states would be allowed to waive out of requirements for insurance companies to 1. not charge people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums and 2. reimpose lifetime maximums.

I have multiple sclerosis. I did not do anything "lifestyle" wise to get this chronic and expensive condition. Just the medicine I take costs over \$60,000 every year. If my home state of Texas decided to waive out of the lifetime maximum prohibition, I could easily lose coverage in 10-15 years. This would be devastating to myself and my husband--currently we are gainfully employed and productive members of society, contributing taxes etc. If I could not get sufficient coverage for my condition, we would be financially ruined and no longer be able to contribute to society.

If this committee would like to really fix what is wrong with the healthcare system, please focus on the cost of care. Focus on the fact that medicines like mine cost Europeans and Canadians significantly less, procedures I require like MRIs cost significantly less, etc. Allow the government to negotiate pharmaceutical rates (this will bring down costs for everyone--just look at what happened with costs at the VA), require insurance companies to be nonprofits--healthcare should not be based on a profit margin. This will save this country and our government millions and allow more to be insured, rather than trying to find ways to provide less services for fewer people. This bill does not get to the root of the crisis in our healthcare system: the high costs. If you really want to help Americans, provide us real choices, then let us buy into Medicare and regulate the costs of healthcare.

Sincerely,  
Miriam Magnuson,  
Austin, Texas

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mitzi Mills <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal September 25, 2017

To the chairperson of the hearing,

As a registered voter and resident of the state of Georgia, I am stating my opposition to this proposal. A plan that will result in the closing of the few remaining rural hospitals in my state, that will result in actual harm to the most vulnerable in my state, and that will lead to the loss of insurance for many, many people in my state is not a plan at all.

The citizens of the United States of America deserve better than what this plan offers. Improving the Affordable Care Act on a bipartisan basis is best for all of us.

Sincerely,

Mitzi B. Mills

[REDACTED]  
Covington, GA [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** David Petersen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** URGENT: I strongly oppose The Graham Cassidy bill.

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Both myself, my partner, and my infant daughter rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without the coverage and affordability of the ACA, my family would suffer immeasurable financial hardship and I'll health. By any measure of a civilized society, a country as wealthy as the United States, should provide healthcare to all its citizens, not only for the select few. I certainly would welcome a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, but not repeal it.

Sincerely,

David Petersen, director  
Beaufort 9 Films

[REDACTED]  
Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]  
Ph: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Beaufort 9 Films  
[REDACTED]  
Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]  
Ph: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Royalty Pinkelman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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

As an insulin-dependent diabetic (type 1), I rely on medication and supplies to stay alive. I'm dependent on insulin and delivery methods to keep me alive. Therefore, consistent, reliable, accessible healthcare without pre-existing condition penalties and without allowing companies to deny me coverage is worth a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA.

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

Sincerely,  
Sarah Pinkelman

[REDACTED]  
Ann Arbor, MI [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Emily Bilowitz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is not a health-care bill at all

Sir or Madam,

For all its faults, the ACA has provided health care to 20 million people who otherwise would not have it. The best fix for it, in my opinion, would be to lower the Medicare age to 55 and provide insurance options for younger/healthier people. That said,

Graham-Cassidy makes no provisions for preexisting conditions and, by putting health decisions into the hands of the states, pits any expenditure for health coverage against such issues as raising the minimum wage or levels of taxation.

**Minimum health care should be a right of all Americans;** private insurance could exist to boost that care for persons who wish to do so, if the profit motive absolutely has to remain in order to appease the donors of our legislators.

ACA, by the way, does not impact me personally; I have health insurance and will turn 65 next year. I wish decent healthcare for my fellow citizens.

Sincerely,  
Emily Golden  
New Hope, PA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Troubled by Graham-Cassidy

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to consider the problems with implementing the Graham-Cassidy bill:

1) Support for the 10 essential health benefits becomes optional under the bill (states can waive these provisions). Thus, things like requiring coverage for maternity care (something most families need at some point) and habilitative care for physical therapy and occupational therapy. My son has needed habilitative occupational therapy to gain skills, something that was regularly denied before ACA as insurance companies covered only skills lost after an accident or injury. When habilitative care is inaccessible, it costs society much longer in the long run, leading to higher Medicaid bills as people are more disabled. This is not fiscally prudent.

2) Lack of an individual mandate will de-stabilize insurance markets, meaning that premiums will go up.

3) This is troubling since my whole family is insured through DC Health Link, an ACA exchange. DC has had its small group market integrated into its ACA exchange so now my family (with an employer of 10 people) has dozens of plans to choose from, rather than 3 as we did prior to ACA. And, my employer provides the same percentage of premium subsidy as they did prior to ACA. This kind of innovation really works and stabilizes markets.

4) Allowing states to opt out of coverage for pre-existing conditions would devastate my family. Both my son and my husband have ongoing, uncurable, but highly manageable pre-existing conditions. If they can't be assured that coverage for pre-existing conditions, they may become un-insured and thus a bigger burden on society.

ACA has issues and can be improved, but not in this rushed process.

Let's have hearings, hear from experts and families, and more. With most health insurance companies and medical associations speaking up against Graham-Cassidy, you know it is not the answer. We can find answers when we work together methodically, not in this rushed way.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Susan Williams [REDACTED]  
Washington, DC [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hava Levitt-Phillips [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family & 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,

Hava A. Levitt-Phillips  
Ann Arbor, MI, [REDACTED]

Love is big. Love can hold anger, love can hold pain, love can even hold hatred. It's all about love.  
--Alice Walker

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Teddy Laury [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

As a Christian, 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.

Teddy Laury  
Ocala, Florida

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachel Keeney <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill

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

Rachel Tedards Keeney  
[REDACTED]

Austin TX [REDACTED]

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal repealing the Affordable Care Act and replacing it with nothing much.

This bill undermines a major segment of the American economy, jeopardizes the physical and mental health of individuals and families, and threatens the financial stability of those same individuals and families – including mine.

Five years ago this month my son was diagnosed with liver cancer – not as a result of lifestyle choices. He received chemotherapy treatment and a liver transplant, and is doing well. My husband and I were extremely fortunate to have excellent insurance coverage through our employment, extended to our son because he was a student. For the rest of his life, without the ACA's protections, he would almost certainly be assigned to a high-risk pool and might be denied coverage altogether.

Almost three years ago my husband was diagnosed with brain cancer. Following surgery to remove the initial tumor, he suffered bleeding in his brain that caused right-side paralysis and significant aphasia. He died early this year at the age of 63. Since I was still employed at the onset of his treatment and was able to carry over my insurance after I was let go, we again avoided financial disaster.

I am now unemployed and unemployable at age 63 – yes, ageism is a real thing – and my husband's life insurance and our savings appear to be enough to sustain me for the rest of my life. If the sky falls in on us again, which I know is all too possible, my financial resources could be wiped out in a matter of months. What then?

I write this, not to garner sympathy for myself, but to represent the hundreds, thousands, hundreds of thousands of families who have known similar catastrophes, and worse. There are Americans facing the world without benefit of good health insurance, savings, or life insurance, without resources from family or friends, without hope. Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson would make their circumstances worse. Why on earth would you want to do that?

Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson is being rushed through without a CBO score, without deliberation, without bipartisan input – all to fulfill a campaign "promise" that does nothing at all to make the nation stronger. Why on earth would you want to do that?

The Affordable Care Act needs improvement. It needs to be made stronger, less susceptible to market whims and insurance company manipulation; it needs to be made more equitable for Americans regardless of the state in which they live. (I live in Texas; don't tell me to trust my governor and legislature with block grants.) I urge you to oppose this bill in committee and to vote against it if it comes to the floor of the Senate. I urge you to do everything in your power to restore the bipartisan process which had begun the hard but necessary work of governing, and seek to build a fair, reliable, affordable system of health care for the American people. We expect and demand nothing less.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Tedards Keeney

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mavonne Garrity <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Stop this Bill!

Please kill this bill. We need the ACA improved, not repealed.

Mary Yvonne Garrity  
[REDACTED]  
Sacramento, CA [REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Molly Aalyson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote against Graham-Cassiday bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Of course I was one of millions of Americans whose children benefitted from the option to stay on our family insurance (sponsored by our employer). However, since turning 26, one of our daughters has had to turn to the state-sponsored Health Connector (i.e., 'Obamacare') for health insurance. She has a number of pre-existing conditions, including a seizure disorder but thankfully was able to find an affordable health insurance through the Connector. Furthermore, my 88-year-old mother-in-law gets insurance through the Health Connector. As you can imagine, given her age, she has many pre-existing conditions. Although her monthly premium is high, without the Health Connector plan, she would have been financially ruined. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Any efforts to improve the plan should involve, as Senator McCain has stated, committee meetings and thoughtful examination of the impacts of any changes.

Sincerely,  
Molly Aalyson

[REDACTED]  
Belmont, MA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Finance Committee Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Committee Members,  
I'm voicing my constitutional right as a citizen to voice my opinion about the Graham- Cassidy healthcare bill. It is an abomination. It will hurt the very people who NEED the help the most: disabled, elderly, poor and persons with re-existing conditions. HOW COULD ANYONE PROPOSE SUCH A MONSTROSITY!!! Shame on anyone who votes for this. How dare the committee try to buy off senators who would vote NO. This is a disgusting display of government at its worst. So much for "draining the swamp!"  
H Boruck

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leontina Hormel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote "No" on 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 story with affordability is that I was not covered by any health insurance until I was 25 years old, the year I began graduate school. I often wonder what would have happened to me, if my car wreck at age 18, when I rolled my car, had resulted in life-threatening injuries. Or, what would my sister's life had been like if her hypothyroid condition had been caught at age 14 and not when she was in her early 30s and had endured depression for all of those years, even though a simple, inexpensive prescription was all she needed.

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

Truly, Leontina Hormel  
Moscow, Idaho

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debra Vanasse <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham Cassidy

A horrible bill that will hurt millions of Americans just to satisfy big GOP donors. I strongly oppose.

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Emily McGinn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Why Graham Cassidy matters to me

Good morning,

I am an ambitious, driven woman who already holds a PHD. I am gainfully employed in a job that I love, yet was diagnosed with MS this past April. My previously uncomplicated life is now full of expensive medications, devices and treatments. I am now afraid to take the next step in my career because of my now, very expensive, pre-existing condition. I plan to work indefinitely, but cannot advance where I am and cannot move for fear my next insurance company will simply not allow me to pick up the coverage I need, or the expense will be so high I can no longer afford treatment, which in my case leads to permanent disability.

Should my abilities weaken from here due to inadequate treatment, I will have to leave the workforce which is something I never dreamed of doing. My physical future is uncertain with this disease and access to real, adequate, cutting edge treatment is key to my long term ability to continue being an active contributor to society. Don't cut off my ambitions before they have a chance to begin. Vote NO on Graham Cassidy and protect our ability to pursue the American Dream without having to factor illness into failure or success.

Dr. Emily McGinn  
Athens, GA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Gowrie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

I have a pre-existing condition - most likely due to my father's exposure to Agent Orange while serving our country during Vietnam - and I have insurance but I'm worried about being denied coverage and caps on my coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gowrie

[REDACTED]  
Astoria, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Aimee Alexander [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO

Dear Senators,

Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

I am the parent of a child with significant and rare medical issues on the autism spectrum. She deserves the same affordable care as every other citizen in this country.

Instead of repealing important part of the ACA, why not work to make it better for everyone?

I will gladly pay more taxes for my neighbors to live happy, healthy lives.

Aimee Alexander  
Derby, VT

--  
I have the honor to be  
Your Obdt. S<sup>t</sup>  
A. Ale

Aimee Alexander

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bonnie Girdi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

NO, NO, NO on Graham-Cassidy!



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kate Karakassis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

This plan is ill-conceived with no thought for how it will impact citizens in the diverse states. It's a rush job to pander to a minority. There are no real protections for those with pre-existing conditions. Premiums will rise and millions will lose coverage.

Health care professionals & organizations overwhelmingly oppose this measure. Republicans with their anti-science anti-professionalism bias are indeed the part of dumb. I encourage all to vote against Graham Cassidy.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal,

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

This bill under consideration just keeps getting worse and worse for working people trying to stay healthy or deal with their afflictions.

Trumpcare is morally reprehensible and anyone for it should be shamed for their interest in their efforts to cut taxes on the wealthy and increase profits for insurance companies on the backs of the rest of us!

*Kip de Moll*

[REDACTED]  
Burlington, V [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not vote for the proposed healthcare bil...

Please do not vote for the proposed healthcare bill! Diane Hendrix.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Danielle Teplica [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please improve, not repeal the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My husband's job ended nearly eighteen months ago, and we are just about to lose the health insurance we have through our COBRA plan. We are frightened about the efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. We would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Danielle Teplica

[REDACTED]  
Westport, CT [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** macafeefamily <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole MacAfee

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bobbi Lancaster [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

My family rely/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.

Barbara Lancaster

St. Petersburg, Florida

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel Friedensen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will not only raise premiums or deprive Americans of health insurance, and thus health care, but it will raise the cost of health care for everyone.

I want a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thanks,  
Rachel E. Friedensen, Ph.D.  
[REDACTED]  
Ames, IA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** R Filmprod [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please read my comments. Thank you!

My family and ImmmDearDearMy family and I depend on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, very similar to millions of other Americans whose lives will be negatively impact by the new repeal and replace proposal. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please save our healthcare and the lives of those we love!

Sincerely, Sam Levi

New York, NY



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Antonella Pagani <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Hello,

I'm very concerned about the healthcare bill that has been proposed in the Senate. For a party so fixated on "law and order", the GOP has certainly been intent on defying the regular order these past few months.

I have been seeing many concerning reports on the projected impact this bill would have on our healthcare system. At the moment I am a young, healthy adult but I'm extremely concerned about the effect it would have on older citizens, children, the disabled and people with pre-existing conditions (which, together, these groups make up a majority of our population!), as well on our economy as a whole since the health industry makes up a huge portion of it.

IT IS UNCONSCIONABLE TO EVEN VOTE ON A BILL OF THIS MAGNITUDE WITHOUT THE REGULAR HEARINGS PROCESS AND A COMPLETE CBO SCORE.

THIS IS SHAMEFUL AND I AM SO ANGRY AND FED UP WITH THE WAY THE SENATE IS WORKING THESE DAYS.

HAVE SOME DAMN SENSE.

EVEN IF THIS DOES NOT PASS, WE WILL NOT FORGET THE STUNTS YOU ARE TRYING TO PULL.

Thank you for your consideration and please do the right thing and return to regular order.

Sincerely,

Antonella Pagani  
Concerned citizen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Irene Rusnak [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Senate hearing Sept 25.2017

Dear Senators,

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy bill. I have 2 children; both with preexisting conditions, and oppose any change in the federal protections currently in place for people with preexisting conditions. I also oppose any legislation that will decrease the number of insured in this country. I encourage Congress to work on bipartisan legislation to ensure all Americans have access to affordable healthcare.

Sincerely,  
Irene M Rusnak

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Robert Averack [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

To the distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I'm writing this letter with a low confidence that any of you will actually read it. Nonetheless, it is essential to my life - quite literally, that I do so. Since 2006, I have suffered from Myasthenia Gravis, an autoimmune, neuromuscular disease in the same family of afflictions as ALS, MD, and MS. In 2013, I suffered a Myasthenic Crisis and resulting respiratory failure that nearly cost me my life, save the intervention of a talented team of emergency and neurology physicians and nurses at Cleveland Clinic in Weston, FL. Essential to that intervention was a 5-day infusion of immunoglobulin that costs several thousands of dollars and which has an efficacy of 1-2 months. Prior to and since this episode, I have amassed between \$100,000 and \$200,000 in health care costs that keep me alive and functioning with a modicum of normalcy.

The bloc-grant and pre-existing condition provisions of Graham-Cassidy, for me, represents a potential long-term death sentence, to be preceded by a guaranteed period of financial collapse ending in bankruptcy. This is cruel and unusual punishment for a man who has done nothing but the right thing his entire life for his family, community, employers and country. And beyond my own, personal story, there are at least 32 million other stories - those of seniors, children, women, veterans, and the impoverished, whose lives are egregiously imperiled by the Graham-Cassidy Bill. Among us, nearly 45,000 of us will DIE every year between 2018 and 2026, as a direct result of passage of Graham-Cassidy. More than 3/4 of all of the US deaths during the entire Vietnam War will die EVERY YEAR if this bill is passed!

Please...I'm beseeching your humanity. Do not impose this death sentence on us. No donor, for all the money he/she may have contributed to your campaign efforts deserves the power of life and death. That is the province of God, not oligarchs. I thank you for your attention and contemplative consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Averack

[REDACTED]  
Delray Beach, FL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Djtuczek <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy bill

Vote no on the Medicaid Graham-Cassidy bill as it discriminates against people with pre-existing medical conditions. It will also cause approximately 32 million people to lose medical coverage. Vote no!!

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Testimony --DO NOT SUPPORT THIS BILL

Hi,

My name is Jennifer Smillie, I am a gainfully employed IT professional. I work in Benefits Administration and my job also comes with employer-sponsored health insurance. Since I work in this industry I understand how important affordable, high-quality health insurance can be. In 2015, my appreciate deepened. I was diagnosed with a bulging disc that required a surgery called a microdiscectomy. That means my body was cut open and the portion of the disc that was painfully pushing against my spinal cord and other nerves was trimmed off. This was and remains the most internally invasive surgery I have ever had.

The hospital charge for this outpatient surgery was over \$23K, this was for using a couple of rooms (pre-op, surgical theatre and recovery) for less than 8 hours. The anesthesia, surgeon, supplies and anesthetist all had separate charges. Because of the out of pocket maximum instituted by the ACA, I was guaranteed to pay no more than \$6600. My employer's plan capped my out of pocket at \$4000.

I returned to work after 11 weeks (almost 3 months).

I now have a pre-existing condition, I do work and I deserve to have dignity in my work and personal life. I enjoy what I do but I should not have to choose to stay in a job out of fear for my health.

Do NOT support Graham Cassidy. PLEASE work to improve the ACA.

Thank you,

Jennifer Smillie  
New Albany, IN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Heather McDougal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO NO NO on Graham Cassidy Bill!

This bill will put our family in serious jeopardy. We are rural people who are too high an income for Medicaid, and too low an income to be able to pay for our own medical expenses. We have a number of pre-existing conditions in our family, so insurance companies won't touch us with a ten foot pole. Please, please, don't drive us to bankruptcy!!

Sincerely,  
Heather McDougal

Davenport, CA (population 200)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dabney Dixon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Title of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Hearing Date: September 25, 2017

Name: Dabney Dixon

Address: [REDACTED] Atlanta, Georgia [REDACTED]

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is of great concern to me. Without a CBO score, we cannot really know the impact on the United States. I am especially concerned that pre-existing conditions are not rigorously protected - most of my family could not afford health insurance if preexisting conditions were not covered.

This is being done hastily without due process. Please do not pass this bill along for voting.

--  
Regards,  
Dabney Dixon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** In New York [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please save our healthcare and the lives of those we love!

My family and I depend on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, very similar to millions of other Americans whose lives will be negatively impacted by the new repeal and replace proposal. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please save our healthcare and the lives of those we love!

Sincerely, Sam Levi

New York, NY



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Erin Boyle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony Opposing Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to state my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal in the strongest possible terms. My brother and I both have a genetic disorder. I am able to work 25 hours a week, but only because I have my medication covered through the Medicaid expansion. Without my medication, I would be unable to work, and would need to apply for SSDI. My ...brother has severe autism, in addition (or as a result of) his genetic disorder. He takes the same medication as me, as well as a broad range of psychotropic medication -- all covered by Medicaid. He lives in a group home, half the cost of which is covered by a Medicaid Home and Community Based Services waiver. Much of the cost of his day habilitation program is also covered by Medicaid. My parents both receive their insurance through the ACA exchange, as my father is a self-employed small business owner and my mother is the president of a small non-profit organization.

This bill would be a perfect storm. It is disingenuous to think that state legislatures in states that wise accepted the Medicaid expansion would be able to replace the funding gap created by block granting of Medicaid. For example, in Massachusetts, MassHealth represents 40% of the state budget, about half of which comes from federal Medicaid. Block granting Medicaid would result in an ugly competition for resources among the elderly who rely on Medicaid for nursing home care, group home residents with severe disabilities, and others with disabilities who are at grave risk of homelessness without long term services and supports that are currently entitlements but would almost definitely become discretionary under block granting. Elimination of the Medicaid expansion would result in people like myself losing their ability to work at all.

I urge you to reject this bill and restore regular order.

Erin Boyle

Winchester, Massachusetts

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barry Yamaoka [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with recent allergies, etc, and multiple doctor visits have made it affordable as the healthcare system is now. I can't imagine or fathom how unaffordable and expensive it'll become if Graham-Cassidy bill is passed. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Barry Yamaoka  
Los Angeles, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jacqueline Elsner [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
Hearing Date: September 25, 2015  
Jacqueline Elsner  
[REDACTED]

Athens, GA [REDACTED]  
Dear Sen. Hatch and Sen. Isakson

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill which your committee will consider at 2:00 p.m. today.

This bill includes a special new tax break for the wealthy, allowing Health Savings Accounts to be used for health insurance premiums. This may also incentivize employers to just put tax-free money into these HSAs and stop offering their staff health insurance all-together.

This bill also redistributes Medicaid money by block grants which punish states that expanded Medicaid and rewards Georgia which did not expand Medicaid. I have family living in Maine and Maryland, two states which will lose Medicaid money under Graham-Cassidy bill. I want you to fund healthcare for ALL Americans, not pit one state against another for Medicaid money. I do not want more money coming to Georgia at the expense of my family in Maine and Maryland.

I want you to work with both parties, in regular order, to improve the Affordable Care Act so all Americans have reasonable health care insurance premiums and can get the healthcare we all need.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Liz Lapof [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Trump'care'

Hello,

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. My husband had and survived testicular cancer only because we had access to the ACA. For the sake of the country, please do not repeal this monstrosity of a bill.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

Liz Lapof  
Brooklyn, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Brian Dolan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Please do not let this bill go through. There is no first world country that doesn't provide affordable health care to its citizens. Why are republicans and the president so against this. They don't have a better alternative and their polices are only detrimental to our nation.

Brian Dolan

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Penni Steinberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 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. Penni Steinberg

[REDACTED]  
Tarzana, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dorothée Bouquet <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi,

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill as it would dismantle healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions like. My mere sex puts me at risk of being left out to dry, since women of reproductive age can be excluded under the Graham-Cassidy bill. In addition, I have pre-existing conditions (an auto-immune disease), for which I wouldn't be able to get healthcare.

How is that a better deal for the American society? I would be in debt, my children would not be able to be cared for and will become a burden for our society. This is just a poor financial decision for our country. And that is without mentioning the questionable morality of this bill.

Best,

Dorothée Bouquet  
Yellow Springs, OH [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Aisha Noble <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Info (Duckworth)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy would Devastate my Family

Senate Finance Committee Hearing on 9/25/2017 at 1pm Eastern

Madame or Sir,

I write to you as a concerned parent and spouse. If it were to pass, the Graham-Cassidy bill would be devastating to my family of three. My two year old son has a preexisting respiratory issue. I have an enlarged thyroid that needs routine monitoring and now my husband could potentially be dealing with a diagnoses that terrifies our family. Stop this bill - lives will be lost as a result of the passage of Graham-Cassidy. It's not just the lives of adults but of our children. Innocent, beautiful children.

Aisha Bell Noble  
[REDACTED]

Chicago, IL [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Lee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family and I currently enjoy the benefits of a pretty good employer health care plan. However, I am hoping to start my own business in the next 2 years. The thing that holds me back most is the availability of quality, affordable healthcare through the individual market. I have celiac disease and glaucoma, neither of which requires intensive, ongoing medical care. However, both are considered pre-existing conditions for which I could be charged more if I were to live in a state that seeks a waiver, allowing insurance companies to charge me more. I can't imagine how families who have more serious pre-existing conditions and extensive ongoing medical care needs could do it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lee  
[REDACTED]  
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

I am a resident of Florida, zip code [REDACTED] where I am currently recovering from Hurricane Irma.

I am opposed to the Graham Cassidy Bill which, in addition to making insurance unavailable to millions of citizens, is further poised to throw the entire insurance industry into chaos, thereby hurting all of us. Even those currently sitting in Congress.

A bipartisan solution must be found to address the things that need to be fixed in our health insurance system. Passing this bill, just to say you passed a bill, is not a solution. It is a craven political ploy and it will be judged as just that. With people's lives hanging in the balance, it is also unconscionable.

Karen Sirabian  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Donna DeAngelis <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy hearing Monday Sep 25th

I believe in quality and AFFORDABLE health care for ALL. I have watched as each bill has been presented and I am truly puzzled. Everyone in the US regardless of their party wants to be able to have **comprehensive AND affordable coverage**. Offering inexpensive health care packages that do not cover basic services is NOT what Americans want. I worked for years in the health care world and know that you can cover everyone with comprehensive coverage as long as the requirement is there that people AND **all insurance companies** must participate.

I would like to see a **bipartisan Congressional effort to improve what we have now (e.g. the ACA) and NOT repeal it**. Both Democrats and Republican voters agree it needs improvements. The only way to get real change is through **collaboration**. The American people want that....is congress ready to deliver that?

Thank you for helping to create a healthier future for ALL Americans.

Donna DeAngelis

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Houlihan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

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,

Jennifer Houlihan

Austin, TX

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Natascha Christoph <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GRAHAM CASSIDY Healthcare repeal

My daughter was diagnosed with clinical depression after a school accident where a huge flowerpot fell on her head. Without the medication she is taking daily she is in extreme risk of suicide. She is only 18 years old. I don't want to loose my daughter because our health insurance is not affordable due to the repeal of the Affordable Health Care Act.  
Natascha Christoph

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** LINDA M LETTENGARVER <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 5:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy bill

Please vote "NO" on this bill. Why is it so important to give the rich more tax cuts at the expense of people with pre-existing conditions? I already lost my sister because she wasn't old enough for Medicare so she had to wait. By the time she was covered, she had breast cancer stage 4 that spread to her lungs,bladder, and brain. I have pre-existing illnesses and I'm not about to die for the rich.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Alberter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I am old enough to have Medicare and I am grateful for the coverage. I do believe all Americans should have access to quality affordable health care. I am so concerned that this bill will wreak havoc in the current system rather than improve it. My son suffered from multiple mental health hospitalizations as a teen but is now a relatively stable, productive 29 year old young man. When I see glimpses of his former struggles I worry that should he need treatment again he will not be able to access it, especially if states are given the option of opting out of providing mental health coverage. Why should one citizen receive poorer coverage and have poorer health outcomes than another based on geography? Please work on a bipartisan improvement to the ACA rather than continuing to tear it apart.

Thank you.

Susan Alberter

[REDACTED]  
Yellow Springs, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shayla Partridge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 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.

Shayla Partridge  
Queens, New York



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Patty Ludwig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Script: I/my family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I struggle with depression a pre existing conditions and my sister is bi polar. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Patty Ludwig  
Studio City, CA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rabbi Elias Lieberman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal the ACA!

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My young-adult children 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.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Elias Lieberman

[REDACTED]  
East Falmouth, MA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel Willimott <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I have epilepsy which requires daily medication to prevent seizures. Without insurance, my medication costs hundreds of dollars a month, something I could not afford as a mental health social worker. It is terrifying to think that my decisions, including where to work, whether or not I start a small business, if I get married, may come down to access to healthcare because my government did not protect people like me with pre-existing conditions. The clients I serve also need healthcare to continue mental health treatment or medical treatments after college. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because it would take healthcare, and peace of mind, away from so many people. Please, Congress, come together to make bipartisan changes to improve the ACA, instead of simply repealing it. Americans need you to show us how to come together on tough issues like this, instead of trying to undo every action "the other side" has taken.

Thank you,

Rachel Willimott  
Reno, Nevada

Rachel Willimott, MSW  
Clinical Social Work Intern  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Counseling Services  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** dawn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

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

- I am a small business owner born with a heart condition. Without the ACA, I would not be able to afford healthcare to manage the symptoms.
- My brother was born with disabilities, lives in a group home. This bill would devastate his life.
- My parents are on a fixed income - and have had severe health challenges in the past year despite living very healthy lifestyles (a trip and fall that kicked off a nerve disorder, diabetes, etc). This new law would make quality healthcare out of their reach.
- A dear friend had a bone marrow transplant - she'd be dead without the ACA - and definitely would be dead under Graham-Cassidy.

I implore you to undertake a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA - do not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Dawn Thomsen  
St. Paul, Minnesota

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alaina Kennedy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Daniel Frey; Ramon Gardenhire  
**Subject:** Opposition Testimony Graham Cassidy Bill - AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
**Attachments:** Testimony Letter - Graham Cassidy AFC.pdf

To whom it may concern:

The following attached letter is a testimony letter to voice our extreme opposition to the Graham-Cassidy proposal. We at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago do not support a proposal that:

- 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.

Thank you so much for taking input from the community. We appreciate you taking the time to review this email and attached letter of testimony – it is greatly appreciated. Please email if you have any further questions.

With respect,

Alaina Kennedy  
Health Equity Manager  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Ann Toman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee -

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have bought my own insurance for years. Now I buy insurance on the exchange and have found the coverage much improved since the ACA took effect. Of particular concern is the removing of protections for people with pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Toman  
New York, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Support Entrepreneurs & Their Families-Vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Diligent Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to respectfully urge you to vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill. This bill does not give enough protection to children with pre-existing conditions! My son was born with cleft palate. I started my own business and it is only because we can afford to buy the most generous insurance package offered by my husband's major corporation that we can meet our son's needs. My friend, a hard working entrepreneur upholding the spirit of small business that makes America great, could lose coverage for her two young sons with Marfan's Syndrome under the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill, because too much power is returned to the states and insurance companies. Many entrepreneurs struggle to afford insurance for their own families while they take the risks needed to make American small businesses some of the most most creative in the world. Surely you do not want the children of entrepreneurs, like my friend's, to lose the health care that they need to grow into the next generation of innovative business leaders? If you truly believe in the welfare of America's sick children, and want to support American entrepreneurs, I implore you to vote "No" on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill.

Respectfully,

Patricia Flaherty, Registered Voter  
Houston, Texas

Patricia Flaherty Pagan, Author of *Trail Ways Pilgrims: Stories*  
Editor in chief, Spider Road Press

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jacqueline Rice [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** vote no on Graham/Cassidy

We strongly oppose the Graham/Cassidy act. The ACA has provided millions of Americans with basic, affordable health care. The thought of many people, some who are America's most disadvantaged citizens, losing health care is unacceptable. Until there is a well-thought out and comprehensive replacement, we fervently encourage you to vote NO on the current replacement.

Thank you for your time and all the work you do for this country.

Jacqueline Rice  
Peter Stamm  
Milwaukee, WI



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joanna Matesich [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy Bill would cost too much

I have been a registered nurse in labor and delivery and neonatal intensive care for 22 years. I witness, on a daily basis, the benefits of preventative care, and the tragic consequences for not having it.

For a nation who professes to place the welfare of children, including the unborn, as the highest of priorities, the Graham-Cassidy Bill is unconscionable.

Ethics and human compassion aside, the bill is fiscally irresponsible. Quality prenatal care is shown to decrease preterm births.

The March of Dimes has estimated the cost of preterm births to be \$26 billion annually. This includes hospitalization for the mother and newborn, early intervention services, special education for those children who survive with disabilities, and lost wages of those children and their families who care for them.

The rise in preventable preterm births would be virtually guaranteed under the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would do so by (1) ending Medicaid expansion, which, under the ACA, has provided people with the greatest need to affordable health care. Mothers in this population are at greatest risk for preventable preterm births (2) by defunding Planned Parenthood and (3) allowing insurance companies to not longer cover essential health benefits including maternity care.

In purely economic terms, these changes to our national health care are fiscally irresponsible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Joanna Matesich, RN  
Tucson, Arizona

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** KAREN BROWN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Karen Brown  
**Subject:** DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA

Dear Fellow Citizens,

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,

Karen Brown, Professor Emerita  
Northern Illinois University

Visiting Professor of Art  
American University

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Becky Bisbee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill -- OPPOSE

Dear Senators,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy health care bill.

My 24-year-old daughter has significant intellectual and developmental disabilities. We continue to care for her in our home because of the services she receives through Medicaid. She is working through a supported employment program and has a job coach -- paid for through Medicaid. We are paid a small amount for her personal care -- paid through Medicaid. We receive respite services as our daughter requires significant care 24/7 -- paid through Medicaid. We are reimbursed a small amount for transporting her to her doctors' appointments, to work and to her recreational programs -- paid through Medicaid.

Your scheme to return the money to state's through block grants and then cap that aid threatens our ability to care for her as long as we are able as well as the future of all those people with disabilities. These people are helpless and your bill means more will be living in institutions, which are much more costly to the government and a disastrous turn in their quality of life.

Please vote against this bill. It is not moving health care and Medicaid in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bisbee

[REDACTED]  
Bellevue, WA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Our nation's welfare is contingent upon a healthy population. Access to affordable healthcare is critical to our survival as the greatest nation on earth. While many are eager to erase the legacy of the previous administration, the attempts to do so at the expense of our healthcare system are both dangerous to our population and to our democracy. It is time for a sincere bipartisan effort to repair those parts of the ACA that are causing premiums to rise beyond what is affordable for American families and to ensure that quality, affordable healthcare is available to all of our citizens from cradle to grave. I worry about my son's future as well as the future's of my husband and myself. As he is entering his prime working years, we are staring at our retirement and wondering if the dreams we've worked for all our lives will even be achievable due to the high cost of health coverage. My son is healthy but what if disaster strikes? Will he join the ranks of the uninsured? Will our rural Texas county even have access to providers? The proposed legislation in the Graham-Cassidy that provides block grant funding to states to use at their discretion does NOT ensure affordable access that includes coverage of pre existing conditions. That alone makes it a threat to our nation's health. I strongly oppose this legislation. It's time to move forward with a sincere bipartisan effort to strengthen our nation's health - not to destroy it.

Most sincerely,  
Robin Rieck

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Myer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: Stop GrahamCassidy

Our 51 year old daughter, who is an elite ultra runner/thru hiker, would likely have died two months ago had it had not been for Obama Care! Ten years ago she had Whipple surgery at the U of W for cystic pancreatic disease. 40% of her pancreas was removed. Three months ago she went into pancreatic failure and became a Type 1 diabetic.....her remaining pancreas was no longer producing insulin. Had it not be for her Molina Insurance through Obama Care, she would not have survived to now be training for her next sponsored adventure and living a meaningful life! Everyone in this great country should receive health care! Shame on our leaders if they make the decision to deprive millions of people of that Right!

Joan Myer, Anacortes WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Canetti <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy bill

Like so many Americans, I depend on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham/Cassidy bill. I have had breathing difficulties for decades, and have recently been diagnosed with minor cardiac issues. The ability to go to the doctor to monitor these conditions, because I have insurance, helps keep me from becoming sicker, thereby costing more money over time. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. You shouldn't have to be rich to be allowed access to affordable health care for yourself and your family.

Sincerely,  
Robin Canetti

Ringwood, NJ

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kelly Asher <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy comments

I have had a life-threatening cardiac arrhythmia for most of my life. Before the ACA, I often struggled to get insurance. For the times I was self-employed, I paid more than my house payment to a high-risk pool provided by my state. I was flatly turned down by insurance companies. Health insurance was often the main employment consideration for both myself and my wife.

When ACA came along, it allowed me to explore other possibilities. I co-founded a small business, and currently hire a few employees. I'm now approaching retirement age, and will be eligible for Medicaid after paying into it for over 40 years.

From my understanding, the Graham-Cassidy bill would take all of this away. Much worse than it was before ACA. It will mean no retirement. Maybe no small business. No future for me.

I resent having to beg for my life every week. Please just end this, and spend time on crafting actual improvements to ACA rather than a reckless repeal without replacement.

Thank you for your time.

Kelly Asher

Albuquerque, NM

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Janet Golden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please don't hurt Americans

I sat in the cancer center when my husband was being treated and I met many people who were there because of ACA insurance. Graham Cassidy will raise their copays to the point where they can no longer be treated.

I know people whose children depend on the ACA for their life threatening conditions. Graham Cassidy will allow the return of lifetime caps on expenditures and their children will die.

This is not the America I know. This is not the America that should be.

There is a bipartisan plan that can be developed and implemented. Take the time to do it right. Please vote no on Graham Cassidy.

Janet Golden

Bala Cynwyd PA [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Howard Bedlin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Letter from LCAO National Seniors Groups  
**Attachments:** LCAO Graham-Cassidy Senate Letter 092517.pdf

Attached is a letter from 49 national organizations, who are members of the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) representing over 40 million older Americans, expressing opposition to the Graham-Cassidy proposal.

Howard Bedlin  
Co-Chair, LCAO Health Committee  
Vice-President, Public Policy and Advocacy  
National Council on Aging (current LCAO Chair)

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Lawrence [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Travesty

Dear Senators:

The Graham Cassidy bill is, at its core, pauper-cide, infirmi-cide, and gero-cide. I, and many others will be forced to forego healthcare entirely if this bill is passed. That an elder's healthcare insurance will be in excess of their annual income is obscene! You state that pre-existing conditions will be covered, but at what cost? The proposed and likely (also likely under-estimated) surcharges are utterly unaffordable. Moreover, you allow states to decide NOT to cover pre-existing conditions. The dis-ingenuousness of this is appalling. It is akin to telling me that I have egress in case of a fire because I have a fire escape outside my apartment - but does not take into account the fact that I am in a wheelchair. Ultimately availability and access (which MUST include affordability) are two very different things which you have conflated.

Bottom line: If you have a human cell in your body (ies), please vote no on the Graham Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,  
Susan A. Lawrence

Susan Ann Lawrence, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]  
Detroit, MI [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love. (Lao Tzu)*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sue Hirschfeld [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

This is a bill that will hurt people who depend on Medicaid and affordable insurance for health care. Vote No on this bill. Every major health organization is against it.

Dr. Sue Ellen Hirschfeld

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sherry Phelps [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 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.

Sherry Phelps  
[REDACTED]

Chicago, IL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alexandra Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern, I am very concerned with the Graham Cassidy healthcare proposal. My mom is in her 60s and has high blood pressure and diabetes like millions of Americans. About 7 years ago, the small company she worked for stopped offering health insurance. While she looked for another job, it was essentially impossible for her to purchase health insurance. Most companies declined outright. The few that offered coverage, were cost prohibitive. For those few months, my entire family lived in fear of a catastrophic health event that would not be covered. I am a nurse, and I know how difficult it is to deal with illness both, chronic and acute. Worrying about money and insurance should not be part of the equation. Healthcare is a fundamental human right and should be accessible to all.

Sincerely, Alexandra Jones  
Maryland

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jason Brush [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** info@kamalaharris.org  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern,

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

My daughter, age thirteen, has a pre-existing condition: she has type 1 Diabetes, an auto-immune disease. She is and will be insulin dependent for the rest of her life.

Without insurance, her insulin alone currently costs over \$800/month — and this price is rising significantly.

For her, and other children like her, to face a life of being discriminated against because of a pre-existing condition, and to look forward to an adulthood of financial ruin makes my heart break.

She is a good student, a kind person, and wants to leave the world a better place than she found it.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I ask all senators to please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Jason Brush

[REDACTED]  
Los Angeles, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathy Haley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham Cassidy

As an older Idahoan currently battling breast cancer, I am worried that my Senators are not listening. A partisan victory could mean the end of my ability to receive the quality health care I have received through the individual market for many years.

i am 62 years old and have been in the individual market since 2000, when I left a state job and its benefits to start a home-based business in order to care for my aging mother. Over the years my premiums went up exponentially until the ACA was passed, and they are back on that trajectory since the law was gutted. It has been frustrating to witness the lack of political will to reign in health care costs across the board, let alone to fix Obamacare, which has done so much for the American people. Decimating the law was a partisan goal from the outset, and you all know that the outcome of this legislation will hurt millions of people like me.

The possible reinstatement of penalties for my age, gender and pre-existing conditions, along with the decimation of subsidies for middle-income folks, is causing extreme stress for millions of average, hard-working, tax-paying Americans.

I urge you to put people above party, to do what you can to benefit the health and well-being of a majority of the American people, many who have come to realize the inherent benefits that the ACA provided, and how run-away costs will ruin many more families in the coming years if this bill should pass.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Haley

[REDACTED]  
Boise ID [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Kieling <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senators:

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

My grandchildren would not be alive today without the support of Medicaid and the exceptional talents of the hospital (Children's in Minneapolis) and dedicated professionals who treated them.

Cancer has been a repeated intruder into several family members' lives, all of whom would have already suffered greatly given their "pre-existing conditions." Dementia and heart disease have similarly impacted others in the family. Pre-existing conditions are a given for most Americans, maybe especially those who care about their health (all?) and have been responsible in maintaining their health.

Only a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, has the potential to guide this nation to addressing the RIGHT of all Americans to access affordable and excellent care.

Sincerely,

Ann  
W. Kieling  
Plainsboro, NJ [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---


**From:** Colin Seeberger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**Subject:** Young Invincibles' Comment for GCHJ Senate Finance Hearing  
**Attachments:** YI\_GCHJ\_Senate\_Finance\_Hearing\_Comment\_9\_25\_17.pdf

Good morning,

Please find Young Invincibles' statement for the record for today's Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment.

Thank you,

--  
**Colin Seeberger**  
**Strategic Campaigns Director**

  
[REDACTED]  
Washington, DC 20005  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Stay up to date on announcements, events and news:*

[www.YoungInvincibles.org](http://www.YoungInvincibles.org)

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** angelika rinnhofer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill! I rely on affordable healthcare like every American. But this bill would not offer it! There must be bipartisan effort to alter Obamacare to improve it, not simply get rid of it! What kind of a government do we have if it can't figure out a working, affordable, and good healthcare system!?

Best,  
Angelika Rinnhofer  
Hollywood, FL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** ocean gallery <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

The Graham Cassidy Bill is wrong hearted. It will not help millions of Americans who suffer from long term illness now and in the future. Please work toward something compassionate and sensible.

Marguerite Siegel

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tom Gunnoud <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill that would dump America's health care bill into the laps of the states. This is literally passing the buck to the states, leaving them to sort through the broken pieces of our health care system. Graham-Cassidy will cost our state \$3.5 billion in lost federal revenues over a six year period beginning in 2020. Our Medicaid program will have to be significantly cut back, since we were an expansion state under the ACA. Poor people should not be targeted in any health care reform. "Revise and Restore" the Affordable Care Act!

Thank you,

Tom Gunnoud

[REDACTED]  
Jamaica Plain, MA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To Whom it May Concern, My father has been healthy his entire life and has been recently diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer at the age of 62. He relies on affordable healthcare because he was a small business owner and pays for his own insurance. Now, he is unable to work and relies on his disability payment to cover the cost of health care. He does not yet qualify for Medicare and in order to qualify for Medicaid, he must relinquish all of his assets including his home and vehicle. My father is able to live independently at this time and prefers to live out his life with dignity in the home he has worked to pay for. Many Americans are in situations like my father.

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. the ACA needs to be improved and repaired so that ALL Americans have access to quality affordable health care.

Sincerely,  
Amy Adams

[REDACTED]  
Waucoma, IA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cynthia Olsen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** line: Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I am an Board certified Family Physician and Geriatrician who has practiced in the state of Ohio for over 28 years. As a Medicaid provider, I have seen how the ACA and the Medicaid expansion has improved the health and well-being of thousands of Ohioans. Our population suffers from high rates of diabetes, heart disease, cancer, obesity, mental illness and substance abuse. When the ACA came into effect I saw many new patients who had not had medical care in years with untreated conditions get help for the very first time. Now is not the time to reverse these gains. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with with front-line experience with Medicaid, coverage caps, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and affordability, is real and documented. Failure to continue to cover American lives and see that our citizens receive this medical coverage is unjust and will result in long-term consequences and increased costs.

WE ARE INNOVATIVE. We can do better.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. We need to include health care professionals who understand the long-range costs to people if their health is compromised today.

Sincerely,

Cynthia G. Olsen M.D.  
Greene County, Ohio

[REDACTED]  
Yellow Springs, Ohio [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Daniel DiStasio [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham- Cassidy bill

I support 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, Daniel DiStasio  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sue Hamel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health bill

Senators, my husband and I are opposed to the graham-cassidy "health care" bill. Like the previous republican effort, It was developed behind closed door with NO input from any part of the health care industry and no information from the CBO. It GUTS Medicaid which for fifty years has been a life saver for poor children, the elderly, the disabled and other vulnerable Americans. And it seriously erodes protections for people with pre-existing conditions including newborns. We URGE you to vote no.

And we recommend that the senate come together and fix the few problems of the Affordable Care Act.  
Sue and Bill Hamel



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Joyce Yarrow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

This bill is a totally partisan attempt to destroy, rather than create efforts toward providing adequate healthcare for every American.

My adult son has a pre-existing condition and currently qualifies for Medicaid. Under this proposed law, he and millions like him will be put in jeopardy of having a cap put in lifetime services or losing coverage altogether.

We need a bi-partisan commitment to providing Americans with a single payer system that covers everyone equally. Playing politics with the life and death issues of our citizens is unconscionable.

Sincerely,  
Joyce Yarrow

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** VJ Ball [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill on many levels, including personal. While there are things wrong with the Affordable Care Act, it would be better to fix it rather than repeal and replace it in a very haphazard manner.

Last year my daughter had a bicycle accident in which she severed her liver in two, a trauma that has a 95% mortality rate. By the sheer luck of having an amazing trauma doctor on call at the hospital in Boulder CO, having an ER doctor from New York visiting Colorado University who was walking by when the accident took place, and the numerous wonderful nurses that took care of my daughter during her two week stay at the hospital, three of which was in ICU, my daughter survived.

Our medical system allowed my daughter to survive. The Affordable Care Act made this traumatic event bearable. Without the ACA my family would have filed for medical bankruptcy. I am a librarian and my husband is an education administrator. Both of us were unemployed during the Great Recession of 2008 and consequently used our credit cards to buy food etc. Our house only recently was no longer under water. Because the ACA capped the amount my family would be responsible for, with the help of family and friends we were able to pay the medical bills that resulted from my daughter's accident. Without that cap I would have had no choice but to file for bankruptcy.

But more importantly, much more importantly, my daughter would be able to buy affordable insurance for the rest of her life even though she now had a "pre-existing condition" because of her accident. And affordable is the key here.

The ACA became law after numerous hearings, with input from patients, doctors, nurses, insurance companies, and medical associations. Pushing through a healthcare bill without due process is insane. We need bipartisan Congressional efforts to improve what we now have as law. It does not need to be repealed and replaced. For the sake of every American, please do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill. Because no one expects to have two policemen at your front door waiting for you to come home to tell you to call the Boulder Community Hospital immediately because your daughter has been in an accident. And no one expects to be told by the ER nurse that you need to come to the hospital immediately.

Victoria Ball  
[REDACTED]

Libertyville, IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dave Brown <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save our healthcare

Though I don't have ACA Insurance, several family members rely on it for their care. One was cut from her health Insurance when her insurance company claimed that she had a preexisting condition. She now uses Caresource under the ACA.

I have insurance through Federal Blue Cross but I do not want my family members or my fellow Americans to lose their health care completely—especially since it is just to give the rich, who don't need it, a tax cut. The newest trump care bill is un-American and cruel. Republicans Congress in are hypocrites, greedy and heartless and don't care one iota about the health of their constituents. Their only priority is to do the bidding of their rich donors so they can stay in power forever!

I pray that republicans in Congress turn to God and end their sinful ways.

Dave Brown/[REDACTED]// Dayton, Oh, [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Phil Vanaria <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Say No to Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am a lifelong Independent, a native New Yorker, and an active senior citizen. I don't know if I can ever even consider any Republican ideas anymore. The Republicans seem to have descended into a heartless, harmful, self-serving party and every day the depths sink lower under the spoiled-brat schoolyard bully so-called leadership of the vindictive Donald Trump.

Average American, the middle class, the working and struggling classes, pinched more and more by the growing sociopolitical inequities, are in dire need of proper due health coverage and care, something that should be a birthright, not a denial potentially leading to their disrespectful decline and/or bankrupted financial ruin. More and more people are favoring the keeping and improving of Obamacare or the implementation of Medicare-for-all. When will Republican leaders stop serving their selfish cruel agenda and give a care for all Americans? The Graham-Cassidy Bill and every other cruel legislative concoction must get the boot big time!

Wholeheartedly,  
Phil Vanaria

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stephen Logue <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** HEALTH CARE

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Do not repeal ACA. Instead, make Medicare available to all Americans. Free Health Care for everyone.

Sincerely,

Steve Logue

[REDACTED]  
Ballwin, MO [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Black <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: Illness is a Hurricane, Personally and Financially

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Black  
Cincinnati, OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marita Patterson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Beth Calder  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I retired from the Army and am 67, so I have both Medicare and Tricare for Life.

But just because "I got mine." does not mean I support kicking the millions of Americans without healthcare to the curb.

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

Marita Patterson

[REDACTED] Cape Charles VA [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Myer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop GrahamCassidy

Our 51 year old daughter, who is an elite ultra runner/thru hiker, would likely have died two months ago had it had not been for Obama Care! Ten years ago she had Whipple surgery at the U of W for cystic pancreatic disease. 40% of her pancreas was removed. Three months ago she went into pancreatic failure and became a Type 1 diabetic.....her remaining pancreas was no longer producing insulin. Had it not be for her Moliña Insurance through Obama Care, she would not have survived to now be training for her next sponsored adventure and living a meaningful life! Everyone in this great country should receive health care! Shame on our leaders if they make the decision to deprive millions of people of that Right!



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Merrill [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposed to 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 previously been a recipient of Medicaid benefits, without which I would not have been able to address my basic health needs. My domestic partner, also a previous Medicaid recipient, was hospitalized due to a combination of a virus and pneumonia that attacked the lining of his heart. Without ACA protections, his three-day stay in the ICU would have led to his financial ruin. A very close friend of mine is currently in treatment for breast cancer. As a freelance musician, should would currently be over \$100,000 in debt were it not for the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Merrill

Jersey City, NJ [REDACTED]

Elizabeth C. Merrill, mezzo-soprano

Wellesley College 0009 | Peabody Conservatory 2013

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Millsaps [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

Joan M. Millsaps  
33 Rock Creek Woods Drive  
Lambertville,  
NJ [REDACTED]

My family rely on quality affordable healthcare as do all Americans. I have a pre-existing condition and future coverage for me will likely become unaffordable. The current proposal will not ensure the same coverage as many have been able to access. Because of theses and many other reasons, I believe a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA rather than repeal it is the direction that must be take .

Sincerely,  
Joan Millsaps  
Lambertville, NJ [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rosemary Beutell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I understand that you're holding a hearing today on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill and would like to submit the following comments for consideration. The Graham-Cassidy bill would eliminate the following protections currently provided under the ACA:

- Eliminates guaranteed protections for people with pre-existing conditions
- Eliminates the requirement for essential health benefits
- Lifts the prohibition of charging people more as they get older
- Lifts the prohibition that insurers cannot spend more than 15% for administrative expenses
- Guts Medicaid and Medicaid expansion. Takes money from states that expanded Medicaid (like Illinois!) and gives it to states that didn't
- Eliminates the individual and employer mandate
- Defunds Planned Parenthood

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would have devastating consequences for millions of Americans.

Rosemary Beutell  
[REDACTED]

Wheaton, IL [REDACTED]  
(IL 6 - Representative Peter Roskam)



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lori Colombo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Bill

Hello.

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that I am self employed with a preexisting condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Lori Colombo

Berkeley California

Lori Colombo  
Bodywork Practitioner and Health Coach For Busy Moms  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jordi Comas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

This process is HORRIBLE. You can not, regardless of party, think a rushed job to reform the complex healthcare system is in any way good policy or politics.

The only way to make private health insurance work for all is to have clear rules that allow insurers to cover everyone. By encouraging states to price discriminate for people with costlier health care, the whole system will collapse and we are back to health insurance only for the healthy and wealthy.

Please do not allow this awful bill out of committee.

Jordi Comas

Jordi Comas  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Will Funderburk <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

While it is true that the ACA has problems, and those problems should be addressed, the Graham-Cassidy bill is not the way to go about this correction. Among other things, the proposed legislation gives no guarantee that pre-existing conditions will be provided for by the states, and the end date of distribution of funds to states is an effective death sentence for many. Most erroneous, thought, is the disregard of normal order in pushing this bill through the Senate. No CBO score, no opportunity for hearings and consultations, and no sincere attempt at bipartisan cooperation. Additionally, the American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, American Public Health Association, National Institute of Public Health, and Federation of America Hospitals have all condemned the bill. To continue to press on, without proper order and consideration of the voices of both parties and the experts in the field, is irresponsible - no, it is morally reprehensible. Sacrifice your party politics and empty promises from years ago for the sake of the good of the people of the United States.

Please, from Byron, GA.

William Funderburk

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Janice MacKenzie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

While I am currently on Medicare, my extended family all rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Many of them will lose the healthcare they have under this new bill because of pre-existing conditions! Therefore, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Janice MacKenzie  
Sellersville, PA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sharon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Obamacare; repair and renew

I am an Obamacare recipient in Florida. My daughter and I have an Obamacare plan; there has been only one insurer in my county for several years. Florida's governor did not support this initiative and so we have problems with it. But because I have an existing condition, I will have NO healthcare if you approve the Graham-Cassidy alternative. It is a horrible bill. I will not have insurance and neither will my daughter. We pay taxes and we deserve to have the kind of care that the US congress, government workers and the president and his cabinet have! Please do not get rid of my healthcare.

Sharon Collins



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Beth Schneck <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

You are elected to represent your constituents, and your constituents want the ACA with improvements. This healthcare bill, and the others that have come up for vote this year are a disaster for this country. They are an insult to the American people. They are beyond offensive to your constituents. Do not vote for this bill. Pass legislation that will better fund the Affordable Care Act.

I have a pre-existing condition. I have a disease I was born with. I had a 7 hour surgery with 3 surgeons in 2016, that I would not have been able to get without the ACA forcing insurance companies to cover people with pre-existing conditions. I suffered for years without proper treatment because I couldn't get insurance.

Anyone voting for this bill should be ashamed of themselves.

.....  
Beth Schneck  
[REDACTED]  
Freehold, NY  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Douglas Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham Cassidy Health Care bill!!

this is not a healthcare bill. it is a way to finance a huge tax break for the wealthy. it's latest version is a transparent bribe to hold-out republicans. it is a cynical, destructive backward step to take away healthcare coverage for people who need it most, including those with pre-existing conditions. Vote No.

Douglas Smith

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** G. Lee Caraher: [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing Monday September 25, 2017

Hello my family and my employees rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son was born with a genetic disorder that severely impacts his cognitive and physical abilities. My husband works half time so that he can actively manage our son's care, school, therapies, activities and health care needs.

We have read the bill and this would have a dramatic impact on our son and our family and millions of people and families like ours.

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

Sincerely,

Georgina Lee Caraher  
San Mateo, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Andrea Messina [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:43 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save Obamacare

**To the Senate Committee:**

My family and I would not be able to have a good quality of life without comprehensive, affordable healthcare—from my high-risk twin pregnancy and postpartum complications to my sons' chronic conditions of severe food allergies and asthma to my child's recent surgery. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. And I oppose any bill that cuts back on the provisions of the ACA.

We must focus on a bipartisan solution from Congress that works to improve the ACA to expand coverage and lower costs. It is a grave mistake to repeal it.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Andrea Messina

Montclair, NJ

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** K B <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markéy); Suzanne Curry  
**Subject:** MALC testimony- the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill  
**Attachments:** MALC\_ACA 9.25.17.pdf

Greetings,

Attached is the Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition's testimony regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bitetti  
Co-Founder of MALC

Text non letter head version of the testimony:

September 25, 2017

Members of the Senate Finance Committee  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Senator Hatch, Ranking Member Senator Wyden and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition (MALC) is in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill: the latest federal effort to repeal major portions of the Affordable Care Act and to "reorganize" the Medicaid program. This bill should not be allowed to advance/pass.

We are in full agreement with Senator McCain's opposition to this legislation: There needs to be a bi-partisan approach to any attempt to ammend/change the ACA and Medicaid. Any attempt must include the public in that process via ample/robust public hearings, public comment periods, and town hall meetings.

The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill would negatively impact those with pre-existing conditions, those with struggling with addiction, and those needing financial assistance to purchase health coverage. If passed, the results would be catastrophic for artists of all disciplines. Many from our community were finally able to obtain affordable health insurance under the ACA.

The ACA is deeply needed by our community and others who have multiple jobs/hard to determine income. The below links further demonstrate why our community and others need the ACA:

1) Excerpt from the Artists' Health Care Task Forces' 1994 Report to Congress (pp 11-18):

<http://www.kathleenbitetti.com/Pages/CongressReport.html>

The report: Stand Up and Be Counted: A 2009 report on Massachusetts Artists of all of disciplines:  
[http://www.kathleenbitetti.com/Pages/MA\\_ArtistsReport2009.pdf](http://www.kathleenbitetti.com/Pages/MA_ArtistsReport2009.pdf)

The Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition (MALC) was formed in Summer 2008. MALC's meetings, and connected working groups are designed to bring together artists leaders of all disciplines and artist(s) run organizations, initiatives, and businesses around key issues facing Massachusetts artists working in all disciplines. Though participants may have different perspectives on how best to address the issues facing our community, we are all committed to improving the social and economic position of all Massachusetts artists. The overall goal is to empower our community, support our artists leaders, and to mentor new artists leaders. We want to ensure that artists are at the policy making table.

MALC respectfully thanks the Committee in advance for your time and again urges the Committee to not advance the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Legislation.

Submitted on behalf of the MALC Steering Committee  
by Kathleen Bitetti

Co-founders of Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition [REDACTED] Cambridge, MA [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Matt Wastradowski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy

Hello! My name is Matt Wastradowski, and I am writing to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy legislation currently up for debate in the Senate.

I feel the legislation would decimate existing markets, make it almost impossible for those with pre-existing conditions to afford care, and severely impact rural communities throughout the United States. I understand the impetus for block grants and rationale behind them, but given the enormity of the health care industry, I've seen study after study saying this legislation will be near unworkable. No major insurance or health care organization has had anything positive to say about this bill; if those experts don't see a path forward that helps *all* Americans, I can't help but feel it will cause catastrophic problems and imperil the care of those who need it the most.

Whatever faults the Affordable Care Act may have, I would sooner encourage Congress to work in a bipartisan manner to shore up those problems than to gut the existing system with something as cruel and inhumane as Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you,

Matt Wastradowski  
Portland, Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

**To whom it may concern.**

I don't think basic healthcare should be a for profit industry. I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I'm a farmer and don't make a bunch of money and the expense of having a catastrophic illness would make me have to sell this place. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, John  
Monmouth, Oregon



Cc: mccain@senate.gov,flake@senate.gov

Date: Mon Sep 25 11:26:29 EDT 2017

Subject: Graham Cassidy Amendment

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am a 60 year old self-employed woman with more than 1 pre-existing condition. Passage of the Graham Cassidy Amendment would make it impossible for me to maintain health care coverage. Allowing the states to determine which pre-existing conditions are covered and which aren't and what the penalty associated with each condition simply means you are denying people like me health care. The additional "age tax" added to the cost of health insurance simply ensures that I won't be able to obtain coverage.

I have an adult son who receives SSI for a mental health condition. His medication costs more than \$350 per month, a cost he could not cover without Medicaid (AHCCCS in Arizona). Without his medication, my son could not function on his own and would probably have to be institutionalized or move home for care.

My family would be ruined financially if the Graham Cassidy Amendment were to pass. It is time for Congress to work across the aisle to improve ACA or develop a reasonable, functional replacement which provides Americans with affordable health care. Please do not agree to kick 32 million people off their health insurance, remove Medicaid expansion and tax seniors while getting rid of coverage for pre-existing conditions. We the people deserve better and it is your job to see that it is done.

Thank you.

Cheryl C. Cayce, Esq.

Cayce & Associates

Tucson, AZ

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anne Elizabeth Moore <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:40 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA testimony

Hi,

I started getting sick ten years ago, but due to the pre-existing condition of not already having medical insurance, was unable to get insurance until the ACA went into effect in 2014. At that point, I was diagnosed with first one, and soon four, and eventually seven autoimmune disorders, chronic ailments that require minimal ongoing treatment to keep me alive—none of which could I afford without the protection of the ACA. My book, *Body Horror: Capitalism, Fear, Misogyny, Jokes* describes the cultural impact of chronic illness and disability, as well as the potential devastation that a repeal would have; it's being taught around the nation on college campuses as we speak. Please do what must be done to ensure folks like me continue to have the medical care required to keep us alive, functioning, and happy.

Thanks,

--  
Anne Elizabeth Moore

### **Body Horror is out now.**

"Sharp, shocking, and darkly funny, the essays in this sapient collection ... expose the twisted logic at the core of Western capitalism and our stunted understanding of both its violence and the illnesses it breeds. ... A series of irreverent and ruthlessly accurate jabs at a culture that is slowly devouring us." —*Publisher's Weekly* (starred review)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** John's Yahoo Mail <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no

People who need medical care the most will be hurt the most.

I am a senior with diabetes and heart problems. I also finished 17 years in USNR and so have no pension from that and no bennies.

John Richardson  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Scarlet Trybala <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Morning,

I'm writing today to urge you to dismiss this bill. The healthcare of the citizens of the United States is at stake here and this bill is NOT the solution.

I'm a constituent of Senators Lamar Alexander & Bob Corker and have asked both of them NOT to support this bill. I do not feel that they are listening to the people they are elected to represent so I'm taking my appeal to you.

Thank you,  
Scarlet Trybala

[REDACTED]  
Greenback, TN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debbie Wiggins <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story is I have asthma and a common cold sends my family member to the hospital. It is heartbreaking. I need to have the affordable coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.  
Sincerely,

Debbie Wiggins  
Petaluma, CA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laura Cowell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Letter

Today I am worried that my children (and myself) will lose our health care coverage. Both my kids have struggled to breathe. Have you ever seen your child turn grey? Have you ever seen your child turn blue? Have you ever wondered if you'd have to worry how to pay for medication to allow your child to breathe?

I am disgusted that our breathing treatments could one day be denied due to a PRE-EXISTING CONDITION.

These lawmakers are pushing this through, they are betting on the fact that everyone is not paying attention. The country is in turmoil with hurricane relief efforts, fires, natural disasters....and they are ramming this through. No CBO score.

Oh, and we can see our premiums raise 20% with this. For less care. And no pre existing conditions will be covered.

Pre existing conditions aren't just the big scary diagnoses either. Asthma, pregnancy, autism, mental health, obesity, migraines.....the list goes on.

Please stand up for ethical coverage for those living with conditions that will be impacted. Your friends, your neighbors, your family...your constituents.

Please reach out to your republican counterparts and tell them how devastating, dangerous and deadly the Graham-Cassidy bill is.

Laura Cowell

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** travis shannon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Hello,

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill vehemently. The ACA is in the best interests of myself, my loved ones and the American public and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Travis Shannon  
[REDACTED] San Pedro, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Zinniker Hampton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill

Greetings,

I write to express my lack of support for the Graham-Cassidy bill that would end Medicare in favor of providing block grants to states. Block grants have historically been a way to say a problem is being handled - only to have the federal government provide inadequate funding for the job at hand and then wash their hands of responsibility. Again, the lack of open dialogue about this bill is concerning and the fact that there is a push to vote on the bill before the CBO can do an assessment is concerning and makes me suspicious. Additionally, the number of people who would be denied healthcare is concerning as are the significant cuts to some states who had followed the law and expanded healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

I encourage senators to vote "No" on this bill in order to preserve the health of my fellow Americans who currently have insurance. You can and must work in a bipartisan way to find a solution to the healthcare crisis in our country. Continuing to put forth efforts to repeal the ACA isn't a the solution - particularly when the bill creates more problems than it solves as is the case with the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you for working on behalf of ALL Americans and for supporting efforts to increase the health of everyone.

Sincerely,

Laura Hampton  
McMinnville, Oregon



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy Rippy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy Bill!!

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill that would dump America's health care bill into the laps of the states. This is literally passing the buck to the states, leaving them to sort through the broken pieces of our health care system. Graham-Cassidy will cost our state \$3.5 billion in lost federal revenues over a six year period beginning in 2020. Our Medicaid program will have to be significantly cut back, since we were an expansion state under the ACA. Poor people should not be targeted in any health care reform. "Revise and Restore" the Affordable Care Act!

Thank you,  
Amy J Rippy

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Emily Rosenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

First of all, thank you for your service to this country. Our elected (and appointed) officials are public servants, working for the betterment of all citizens. I hope and pray that's how you see yourselves: you represent EVERY American and we all depend on you to do good work.

I care about all Americans, including those struggling through poverty and in need of Medicaid and Medicare. The ACA protects us all and as public servants, I beg you to consider it your job to protect and improve it. I saw my mom and dad receive quality, affordable healthcare and strongly believe this should be available for everyone in this country.

I have worked for nonprofit organizations for years, working to build peace and understanding, support the safety net and make sure that people have access to quality healthcare. I recently completed a masters in global health sciences and am embarking on a second career. I want to do good in this world and like all people, 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. Its protections from insurance companies wanting to raise costs for those of us with preexisting conditions are VITAL for my family.

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy and do your best to make our country a better place for everyone.

Sincerely,  
Emily Rosenberg  
San Francisco, CA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Vita Eizans <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**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. My husband has hypertension and a thyroid condition for which he has taken medication for years. My father has a heart condition that requires multiple medications, without which he would die. My mother has had breast cancer, twice. I myself am a female, relatively healthy, but as a women in her childbearing years I am concerned about the possibility that maternity coverage could disappear.

I am also a physician, an ObGYN to be exact. Many of my patients relay on the ACA in order to obtain healthcare. Without it, they would have to choose between feeding their families and obtaining healthcare. No American should have to make that choice....

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

Vita R Eizans, DO

[REDACTED]  
Ada MI [REDACTED]

--  
Vita Eizans, DO

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Charlotte [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Promises? NOTE NO

The campaign promise to repeal and replace Obamacare included these promises, as well:  
Healthcare for all;  
Protection of no extra cost for pre-existing conditions; Lower premiums; Improved coverage.  
Graham-Cassidy does NONE of this.  
While it gives states greater control, it closes millions out of affordable healthcare.  
While we are in an opioid crisis, it strips essential coverage for mental illness and drug counseling.  
Women are penalized for being women.  
PLEASE vote NO to this bill that keeps NONE of your promises.  
PLEASE work in a bipartisan fashion to REPAIR the ACA.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Andrew Cohen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** William Rainsford; Matt Selig  
**Subject:** Comments opposing Graham-Cassidy bill  
**Attachments:** Graham-Cassidy bill - HLA comments - 9-25-17.docx

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see the attached comments from my organization, Health Law Advocates, regarding the proposed Graham-Cassidy legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Andrew Cohen

-----  
Andrew P. Cohen  
Supervising Attorney  
HealthLawAdvocates  
One Federal Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Pronouns: He, him, his

**\*\* HLA has a new Toll Free telephone line: [REDACTED] \*\***

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Heskett [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

I have family members who suffer from mental illness. They need quality affordable care in order to be productive members of our society. They work hard at their jobs but are not lucky to have employee sponsored insurance. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which would make it impossible for them to afford insurance and get treatment. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Barbara Heskett  
Oak Park, IL

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shelton, Hilary O. <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NAACP comments on ACA repeal & Cassidy-Graham proposal  
**Attachments:** CASSIDY-GRAHAM.Senate Finance.pdf

Please consider the attached letter as the official statement of the NAACP for the record for today's hearing. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office at (202) 463-2940.

Thank you,

Hilary Shelton  
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau  
& Senior VP for Policy and Advocacy  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Nick Dawson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy Bill!

I am against this bill that will take insurance away from many Americans and make things much worse for people with pre-existing conditions. Do not repeal and replace!

--

Nick Dawson  
Editor-in-Chief, Talkhouse Film  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laurie Racicot <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare from the ACA. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because my family will likely lose health insurance if the ACA is repealed. We only have health insurance because the ACA makes it affordable and accessible, we did not have insurance before it was put in place. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. PLEASE STOP TRYING TO REPEAL THE ACA! AMERICANS LIKE IT AND BENEFIT FROM IT! But your energy towards making it better instead.

Thank you.

---

Laurie Racicot  
Anacortes, WA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kelley Malone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 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.

Kelley Malone  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Milwaukee, WI [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Nancy Einhorn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fw: Graham Cassidy Heller Bill

I and my 5 other voting members of my family still oppose this bill even with the changes!! Needs to be bipartisan and thought through. All 50 states designing their own coverage is reinventing the wheel and inefficient!! Also offering special circumstances to some states is unconstitutional (something you are supposed to uphold). Still pre-existing conditions will be severely penalized causing undue hardship for them. Stop rushing this important legislation that affects 1/6 of our economy!!!!

Nancy Einhorn [REDACTED]

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- [http://\[REDACTED\]](http://[REDACTED])
- [http://\[REDACTED\]](http://[REDACTED])

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Nancy Einhorn [REDACTED] >  
**To:** "gchcomments@finance.senate.gov" <gchcomments@finance.senate.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 10:02 AM  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Heller Bill

I oppose the bill because over 30 million will lose coverage. The mandatory portion is necessary to keep people covered AND to make insurance work (think car insurance-not optional if you own a car and everyone has their health which will eventually end with an illness/injury). I have worked 20 years in Benefits in corporate America so I know how claims experience affects premiums. PREEXISTING CONDITIONS MUST BE COVERED. WOMEN'S HEALTH (Planned Parenthood) MUST BE COVERED. NO LIFETIME MAXS. Both these items cause bankruptcies. We do not want MEDICARE OR MEDICAID gutted. My father-in-law will have no where to go if you do this! ALL THE MEDICAL ADVISERS SAY NO TO THIS PLAN. DO NOT APPROVE. WE WANT BIPARTISAN REGULAR ORDER DISCUSSIONS!

Nancy Einhorn [REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy Marchand Collins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please defeat this cruel bill

Dear Senators,

By cutting Medicaid you will not only be cutting the services my family depends on for my disabled teenagers to fully participate in the community. You will also be eliminating the programs that make it possible for me to work, even part-time.

If my kids lose their services, I will be forced to quit my job and stay home to care for them. That takes me out of the workforce now, diminishes the quality of life for all three of us, and deprives our community and this country of the economic and intellectual benefits it would reap were we able to take part to the fullest extent of our capabilities, instead of our family being treated as disposable because of the physical challenges my children must overcome.

Plus by removing me from the workforce in my fifties, this bill makes it all but certain that my current financial struggles will continue well beyond "retirement" age.

All so that people with more money than they know what to do with can rake in even more.

For shame.

I promise you this: if this bill or something similarly cruel does become law, I will make it my permission to personally work tirelessly for the defeat of every senator and representative who votes in its favor.

You will be hurting my family and my livelihood with this cruel bill. I will have plenty of time to make lots of phone calls for your opponents.

Amy Marchand Collins

[REDACTED]  
Johnston RI. [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Liz Kinnon [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** URGENT: Graham-Cassidy bill

To All U.S. Senators,

I implore you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, which would cost millions of Americans (including some of my family and friends) to lose their health care or bankrupt them! In some cases, they will suffer and die. This is not an overstatement or an attempt at drama. It is the truth.

**It is time for bipartisan Congressional effort to IMPROVE the ACA.**

THIS is what I expect from Congress.

I expect you would feel the same if you didn't have great health care benefits paid for by taxpayers.

Elizabeth Kinnon  
American Citizen

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Kill the Graham Cassidy Bill

Please kill this bill that will disadvantage hundreds of Americans.

I believe that health care coverage in the US requires federal oversight and protections so that Americans do not experience variable coverage as they cross state lines. Americans' health care coverage cannot be left up to the whims of state politicians.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would eliminate the following protections currently provided under the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill:

- Eliminates *guaranteed* protections for people with pre-existing conditions
- Eliminates the *requirement* for essential health benefits
- Lifts the prohibition of charging people more as they get older
- Lifts the prohibition that insurers cannot spend more than 15% for administrative expenses
- Guts Medicaid and the Medicaid expansion. Takes money from states that expanded Medicaid (like Illinois!) and gives it to states that didn't.
- Eliminates the individual and employer mandate
- Defunds Planned Parenthood

In addition, the routine process for passing bills of this magnitude has been bypassed in the Republicans rush to repeal and replace ACA before the end of September. There will only be one hearing on the Graham-Cassidy bill, and the CBO has indicated there is not enough time for a full analysis of the impact of this bill before it comes to a vote.

Multiple health care organizations, health insurance companies, and all 50 state Medicaid directors have expressed their opposition to this bill that would be destabilizing for individuals, the healthcare market and our economy.

This bill would have devastating consequences for millions of Americans. I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

We need regular order to discuss this bill--really can't expect to repeal and replace Obamacare with one hearing! That's dishonest and undemocratic!

Sincerely,  
Mona Ahsan

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Although as a senior I am on Medicare, I am well aware that it costs the country far more to support people who get too sick to work or who can only get medical care they need by visiting hospital ER rooms. In addition there are millions of seniors and disabled who require nursing home care supported by Medicaid.

Saroj Gilbert.

[REDACTED]  
Arcata, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Do not pass the healthcare bill until there are bipartisan hearings.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** II [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't destroy us

To all,

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

Sincerely,

Linda Loizides

[REDACTED]  
Hutchinson Island, FL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Liz McIntyre [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH Comment Attached  
**Attachments:** Graham-Cassidy.pdf

I have attached my comment re GCH. Not sure which format works for you- the text is copied into this email too.

### Senate Finance Committee September 25, 2017 Graham-Cassidy Bill

Liz McIntyre  
[REDACTED]

Granby, CO [REDACTED]

The Graham Cassidy bill is unconscionable. The idea that donors come before constituents and regular order is indicative of the challenges our democracy faces. All Senators should oppose this bill. That a bill drafted in secret without input from medical professionals, organizations, patients and states would be foisted on Americans and expected to be enacted by states within two years is ludicrous. Any healthcare bill should thoroughly be considered and debated until all parties understand what is in it and how it will lead to improved healthcare (or not). Congress should not vote without a CBO score. Congress should have learned this with the ACA. Republicans had seven years to craft an effective policy. Now they expect states to do this in two years. We should ask ourselves how good the interstate highway system would be if each state was given a block grant and told to design whatever they wanted. Can the proponents point to a similar approach taken in any country that has better health care outcomes than the U.S.? Why do they think a patchwork of 50 different policies is better than a unified policy?

There are so many questions regarding this bill. What happens if you get sick outside of your home state? What is a pre existing condition and who defines it? Will those with pre existing conditions be entitled to policies with premiums equal to those without pre existing conditions? Will maternity care be covered? Will there be lifetime caps? Family planning? Mental health? Will Planned Parenthood which provides preventative screening to millions of Americans be funded? Will the treatment of erectile dysfunction for Senators over the age of 60 be funded? Prior to the ACA I had a pre-existing condition that was excluded from coverage. I did not know what was buried in the fine print of my policy re hospitalization, cancer treatment, mental health etc and my premium went up every year. Let's not return to that place. Vote against this bill and work together on policy that will result in an American health care system we all can be proud of.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Boothe, Georgia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:30 PM  
**To:** McBride, Yolanda; gchcomments  
**Cc:** Kim, Terry; Espinal Antigua, Keyla; Eckstein, Katherine  
**Subject:** RE: Children's Aid - Senate Finance Committee on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Love It!! Great job everyone!

---

**From:** McBride, Yolanda  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:00 AM  
**To:** GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov  
**Cc:** Boothe, Georgia; Kim, Terry; Espinal Antigua, Keyla; Eckstein, Katherine  
**Subject:** Children's Aid - Senate Finance Committee on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Good Morning,

Please find attached the statement from Children's Aid for today's Senate Finance Committee hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

Thank you.

Yolanda

Yolanda McBride | Director of Public Policy | Children's Aid

[REDACTED]  
Phone [REDACTED]

**\*\*Please note the new address\*\***

Children's Aid is part of the Campaign for Children  
<http://www.campaignforchildrennyc.com>

**Children's Aid is a member of the Fostering Youth Success Alliance (FYSA)**

Visit our Website Today! [REDACTED] Like us on [Facebook!](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [REDACTED]

Follow us on Instagram: [REDACTED]

 Keep e-mail green. Print only when necessary.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Israel Maya [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Sir/Madam

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 child like many has Crohns Decease and we don't what to do it she cannot get the care or medication. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Be responsible these kids depend on you.

I  
Sincerely,

Israel Maya

Marlboro, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ivi Brenner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trumpcare

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ivi Brenner <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** September 25, 2017 at 1:29:44 PM EDT  
**To:** [gchcomments@finance.gov.net](mailto:gchcomments@finance.gov.net)  
**Subject:** Trumpcare

Trumpcare is reprehensible, irresponsible and anti-American. This view is held widely by both those who work in health care and the rest of the population. Ivi Brenner

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Guinn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy

Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy. Democrats and Republicans should work together on something as important as health care.

Lisa Guinn  
Lindsborg, KS

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jules O <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on the ACA as the only way to insure my stepmother and stepbrother, who were both born with birth defects because my step-grandfather was exposed to Agent Orange while serving in the Army. My stepbrother had to have open-heart surgery at six weeks old, which meant he was born a pre-existing condition. Without the ACA, neither of them would be able to get care for health issues arising from their family member's service to our country. Failing to insure the children and grandchildren of veterans fails to recognize that the sacrifices our soldiers make are passed down through generations.

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

Sincerely,  
Julie Obenauer, DrPH

Baltimore, MD



## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Holly Kurtz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re the Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee: Please vote against this bill. Don't let ideology get in the way of common sense. This bill would harm Americans, throwing at least 20 million off their health insurance, weakening protections for pre-existing conditions, destroying Medicaid, and giving states an open invitation to cut even more through block grant funds. History shows us that block grant funds do not improve the situation at the state level. Instead, state legislators use it as an excuse to cut funding, usually behind closed doors. Also, the fact that leading U.S. senators drafted this bill behind closed doors is a slap in the face to Americans who believe in the legislative system.

- Holly Kurtz  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Donald Kohn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

As a practicing pediatric dentist, many of my young patients and their families rely on quality, affordable health care. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Donald W. Kohn, DDS

[REDACTED]  
Guilford, CT [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bax, Rebecca <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Erin Prangley, J.D.  
**Subject:** Comments on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Good afternoon honorable members of the Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council, I write to ask that you oppose legislation that fundamentally limits access and resources for Iowans with disabilities to affordable healthcare and long term services and supports that offer the opportunity for the most integrative lives possible.

Currently, Medicaid is a partnership between the federal and state governments, but under a per capita cap, the federal government would set a limit on how much to reimburse states based on enrollment in the Medicaid program. Funding would not be based on the actual cost of providing services. Like the block grants also proposed, the intent of the per capita caps is to restructure the program and save money for the federal government, which will inevitably lead to cuts in funding in the states. The negative impact for Medicaid recipients could include:

- Loss of home and community-based services and supports and growing waiting lists.
- Loss of other critical services such as personal care, mental health treatment, prescription drugs, and rehabilitative services.
- A shifting of costs to individuals, family members, states and providers to make up for the cuts in federal funding.
- Do not repeal the Affordable Care Act, the most significant law for people with disabilities since the Americans with Disabilities Act. **Because of the ACA:**
  - Health insurers can't deny health insurance or charge higher premiums if you have a disability or chronic condition.
  - There aren't financial limits to how much health care you can get in a year or in your lifetime.
  - More people with disabilities and chronic health conditions are able to access health care due to the Medicaid expansion

We respectfully ask that you oppose this legislation in support of bipartisan development of fixes to the ACA and continuation of services and supports to Iowans with disabilities offered only through the Medicaid.

Very respectfully,

--

Rebecca Lynn Bax  
Executive Director  
Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Des Moines, IA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stachoviak, Ryan J - DHS <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Wisconsin Council on Mental Health Testimony  
**Attachments:** WCMH Testimony Re Graham-Cassidy 09.25.17.pdf

I am forwarding over written testimony on behalf of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health.

Regards,

Ryan Stachoviak, MPH  
Mental Health Planner  
Bureau of Prevention, Treatment & Recovery  
Division of Care and Treatment Services  
Department of Health Services

[REDACTED]  
Madison, WI [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Note: Sent in my role as staff to the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robyn Fish <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern, esp Senator Hatch,

Please don't take away Medicaid, esp in Utah. It would affect so many young lives that have brought so much happiness and hope to thousands of people around them. Their quality of life would be ruined without the help of Medicaid. Their families would have to suffer two fold, both financially and dealing with the losses of not being able to care for their children. Don't be like the nazis, k? Disabled lives matter just as much as anyone else's.

~Robyn Fish

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** mary mckinley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham, Cassidy, Heller bill

Mary McKinley  
[REDACTED]

Slidell, Louisiana [REDACTED]

I am a retired hospital Social Worker, a constituent of Sen. Cassidy, currently living in Slidell, Louisiana and beg you to vote no against this harmful bill.

Almost 2 years ago I was forced to retire due to medical issues. I had many hospitalizations and ER visits before being diagnosed with Stage 3 COPD and started on oxygen 24/7. I was forced to contemplate my prognosis and felt that my death was not a far off conclusion. I was able to pay for COBRA coverage by cashing in my retirement account. Because Gov. Jon Edwards accepted Medicaid expansion under the ACA, I was able to continue receiving medical care and life-saving medications when I no longer had the financial resources.

I am now on Social Security disability and continue getting medical care through Medicaid. My health status has stabilized and I am now considered to be in Stage 2 COPD. My hospitalizations have been greatly reduced as have my ER visits. Primary care has improved my quality of life & been a cost-effective solution.

If you take away my healthcare make no mistake I will suffer. I will also continue to receive care but it will be the most expensive kind. I will become a "frequent flyer" at the local hospitals likely requiring recurrent hospitalization. This bill is shortsighted and cruel and in the long run will not control costs or improve healthcare.

Sincerely,

Mary McKinley

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Starks <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 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. Joan Starks

[REDACTED]  
Mableton, GA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amelia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

Passage of a bill that limits medicare would be devastating to my family. The services it provides enables my sister, who has developmental disabilities, to live independently in her community in Wisconsin. She's an employee and a taxpayer, and her alternative without medicare would be institutionalization, at far greater expense to taxpayers and to her own personal detriment.

Medicare saves and improves lives. Putting it at risk is both irresponsible and counterintuitive. Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Sincerely,

Amelia Swedeen  
Los Angeles, CA  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marika Reuling <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Frederick, Julia (Warren)  
**Subject:** Statement on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare proposal

Dear Senators:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my statement.

Senate Republicans supporting Graham-Cassidy have essentially told whole swaths of humanity: women, the disabled, the mentally ill, the poor, the elderly, children and adults with pre-existing conditions --- that we do not matter to our government and should not matter at all.

Graham-Cassidy is a coordinated attack on women's and children's access to healthcare. This bill would both increase the cost of having a baby and return the U.S. to the days when simply being a woman was considered a pre-existing condition — meaning we could be charged far more than men for health care or simply denied coverage. And while the GOP is trying to make having a baby more expensive, they're also trying to make having an abortion more difficult. **So you want to prevent women from having abortions, but don't want to pay for either our maternity nor pre- and post-natal care?**

Well, we won't go quietly. We won't forget your names. Because this insanity doesn't just affect "people" — it affects me.

My husband and I welcomed our son, Jack, at 28 weeks in July of 2015. I had a very normal, healthy pregnancy -- until suddenly it wasn't. I ended up with a rapid onset of HELLP, a rare and life threatening syndrome, and an emergency c-section saved both my life and my son's.

My son was 1 pound, 14 ounces when he was born. We were both in the ICU for some time, my son for 110 days. He was on a ventilator for weeks. He came home on oxygen. To this day, 21 months later, he still needs a continuous feeding tube that is surgically inserted into his intestines to survive. Despite this, he's alive, and quite frankly, I'm alive because of our amazing healthcare. **(Isn't that what you always say you want, babies to live? Do you realize what that takes?)**

I have the benefit of an exceptional employer healthcare plan. My husband and I work in professional, well-paid jobs. We have the benefit of living in the state of Massachusetts, with excellent access to the world's best hospitals. And my son also qualified (because of his birth weight) for MassHealth and as a result, we receive Medicaid in addition to our private insurance. **Medicaid is not a dirty word, it's a life-line for even well-resourced families like mine.**

Why?

- My son's hospital bills were in the multiple millions after his 110 day stay in the NICU. This doesn't even include hospital costs for my stay. My husband and I, despite having excellent jobs and resources, would have been bankrupt, and immediately so, without our private healthcare and Masshealth benefits.
- Since coming home from the NICU, Jack is still on a feeding tube and oxygen, and he cannot be accepted into a regular daycare. Medicaid pays for skilled nursing care in our home with no out of pocket costs. This means that Jack gets the care that he needs, and my husband and I can still work at the jobs that we love.
- Jack participates in early intervention programs and receives feeding therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy free of charge.
- Jack's synagis shots cost \$0.00 (Synagis is a prescription medication that is used to help prevent a serious lung disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus, RSV, in children at high risk for severe lung disease from RSV). The average wholesale price is \$780.15 for the 50 mg Synagis vial and \$1,416.48 for the 100 mg vial. Jack gets a \$2,196.63 shot every month to help ward off a potentially life-threatening illness.

I cannot imagine this life without my son's Medicaid. I recently joined the NICU Family Advisory Board at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Hospital in Boston (where Jack and I were cared for) as a way to give back, and today, I mentor other families who have unexpectedly found themselves the parent to a tiny, premature baby fighting for life. In nearly every case, navigating the insurance system, and fears about money are top of mind.

Despite my health and my resources, I almost died giving birth. I couldn't hold my son for days. And yet, in America, we are DECREASING access to healthcare for pregnant women. We are DECREASING protections for our nation's most vulnerable children. And we are proposing a healthcare bill that REMOVES healthcare as a right for nearly 30 million people.

**Graham-Cassidy will be a disaster for our family.** Coverage for all? No. In fact, it will kick about 30 million Americans off insurance. Preexisting conditions? Nope. If the bill passes, individual states can let insurance companies charge you more if you have a preexisting condition. Guess how many my son Jack has..... Will there be a lifetime cap? The states can decide on that, too, which means there absolutely WILL be lifetime caps in many states. For someone like Jack, that means hitting a lifetime cap before the age of three. That means no future coverage for anything that might happen to Jack for the rest of his life. That means bankruptcy for millions of families like mine. That means choosing between sending my kid to college or paying for his healthcare.

This is an atrocity.

Sincerely,

Marika Reuling

Duxbury, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Gonzalez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Please reject Graham-Cassidy. All Americans deserve healthcare and this repeal and replace will take that away from millions.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alicia Gasparovic [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it loosens protections for pre-existing conditions, allows waivers for lifetime maximums, threatens Medicaid, and unfairly punishes Planned Parenthood even for routine services. This bill targets the less fortunate, and threatens my coverage which I buy on the open market. We need to return to regular order and find a bipartisan solution that will last. We can't allow health care to ping pong between parties. Too much is at stake. Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you.  
Alicia Gasparovic

Alicia Gasparovic

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Annette Gerhardt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The worst bill yet!

You people are absolutely unbelievable! What planet do you live on that you would think that this bill would help people!

Annette L. Gerhardt

[REDACTED]  
Huachuca City, AZ [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jason Holzman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

To Whom it May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that for the past 13 years my wife has lived with Multiple Sclerosis. Without healthcare coverage, our medical bills would be more than any family could handle.

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

Sincerely,

Jason Holzman  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alex Hasapis <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25, 2017

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

As one of the millions of Americans who live with depression, I need medication to be an active and participatory member of society. When the company I worked for went under last year, it was only through the Affordable Care Act that I was able to still have insurance and afford my medication without going bankrupt. Medication prices have been increasing as it is due to pharmaceutical greed, Graham-Cassidy would allow insurance companies to either decline me for having the preexisting condition of depression or charge me more for having this condition, making it harder for me to afford to live in this great nation.

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

Sincerely,  
Alex Hasapis

[REDACTED]

--  
Alex Hasapis

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Andrea Bunker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham Cassidy

Dear Senators:

The Graham Cassidy bill in no way provides solutions to the problematic portions of the ACA. By trying to pass sub-par legislation in a partisan attempt to repeal the ACA just to say you have repealed the ACA is detrimental to millions of Americans. Please consider those who have the most to lose, those who are the most vulnerable. A healthy populace is one that can achieve, thrive, and create a stronger United States. People matter more than money. Always.

Thank you,  
Andrea

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Kristen Grayson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Thank You

Dear Congress,

Please keep up the good work fighting to REPEAL the Unaffordable Healthcare we have been forced to pay for.

Kristen Grayson R.D.H.

Community Health Alliance  
Sparks Health Center  
[REDACTED]

[Blue Logo]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Daniel Dean <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** oppose Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to add my voice to the millions of Americans and virtually every major health care organization in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy health care legislation. It would result in millions of people like me being priced out of health coverage due to pre existing conditions. The Affordable Care Act is not perfect, but the Graham-Cassidy legislation would be a major step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dean  
[REDACTED]  
Winslow, AR [REDACTED]

--  
Dan Dean, LEED AP  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ryan Ben [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Comments

To Whom it May Concern -

My name is Ryan Ben and I am writing you today to express my strong opposition to the current Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

Thankfully, my employer for the last six years has provided me with health benefits, insurance, and assistance when it has come to my medical expenses. However, the same can not be said for my partner, some of my family, many of my friends, and of course, millions of my fellow American citizens.

It is my belief that access to affordable healthcare is a right. I believe that the health and well being of every person in this country should be a top priority. And I believe that when we put human beings first, we are all better for it.

It is my sincere hope that this bill is defeated, and that we begin the process towards a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for reading this message. I look forward to continuing to work with my local representatives to ensure that healthcare becomes a right for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ben

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathy Czach [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:03 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.

Kathy A Czach  
Hoffman Estates, Illinois

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jackson Gibbs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stroke survivor

I survived a stroke at 38 only because I had insurance. I've recovered and gone on to contribute millions in productivity to our economy in the years since.

Without insurance I would have died, lost my home many times over, or not even be able to read much less code & do advanced math today.

We cannot afford to deprive ourselves of the potential of our most skilled citizens for lack of fundamental healthcare.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Julianne Clancy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Finance Committee,

We as Americans have certain phrases we hold sacred—none, perhaps, more powerfully so than the guarantee of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." In today's world of amazing technology, incredible medicine, and unbelievable research, nothing is more akin to the right to life, liberty, and happiness than the right to healthcare. There is no reason that any American today should die of a preventable condition. No reason that someone should have to choose between affording their home or affording their cancer treatment. No reason that someone's access to life-saving therapies should be a privilege instead of a right.

Yet here we are—with another bill in place that could strip millions of Americans of their access to care that they can afford. A bill that systematically takes away benefits from the most vulnerable members of our community (yes, pre-existing conditions are "covered," but only under a vague and easily diverted loophole of needing "reasonable" rates). A bill that, at it's core, is damaging to the American people.

I understand many of you ran under a promise to repeal and replace Obamacare. However, this should no longer be an issue of promises or campaigns—this is an issue of American lives. This is not a replacement. This will not give your constituents, as promised, relief from the increases in premiums while still guaranteeing them coverage. This is simply demolishing what was in place, and allowing millions of Americans to once again face the devastating choice of existing in poverty, in order to cover their health, or living without access to healthcare.

Please, ignore politics and promises and campaigns and lobbyists for one moment, and act to protect the most basic needs of Americans—protect their right to live and be free from debt due to medical costs:

Do not vote yes on this bill.

Sincerely,  
Julianne Clancy

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Mills <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality and affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham/ Cassidy Health bill. I have an elderly 92 year old mother that depends upon her Medicaid. She has Stage 4 kidney disease. She is very scared right now not knowing if she will be able to afford her medical care. I have one sibling fighting pancreatic/liver cancer. He was a Vietnam Vet. It's a miracle that he has stayed alive since his diagnosis. This is due to his extensive chemo and radiation treatments. If he is unable to afford or have access to healthcare due to pre-existing conditions-he will die. I have another sibling in remission from lung cancer. She is alive today because she had access to affordable healthcare.

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

Sincerely,  
Julie Mills  
Troy, Michigan

Sent from Julie's iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Matthew DeCapua [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is a bad bill and the wrong direction

To whom it may concern:

Graham-Cassidy is morally reprehensible and fiscally irresponsible. Those who vote "yes" on this atrocious piece of pending legislation will be remembered in the next election, and in the history books, as anti-American. The medical profession is totally united in its opposition to the bill, and only 25% of the general population support it according to the latest polls.

Health care in American can and should be improved, but Graham-Cassidy represents a gigantic leap in the absolutely wrong direction. Please work in a bipartisan way to draft health care legislation that will benefit all Americans.

Very sincerely and respectfully yours,  
-Matthew DeCapua  
Citizen  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jaclyne mckinnon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy Graham budget cut

I'm really scared I'm a single mom trying to survive on my own I count on my Medicaid n Medicare please don't cut our budgets I don't get any other help as it is this is crazy!!! Not the answer

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carol McConnell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham Cassidy!

Without study by the CBO and with the knowledge that health care in the US is likely to be extinguished for those who need it most- ie people with pre-existing conditions- I am adamantly opposed to this new attempt to undermine the Affordable Care Act. Please vote no!

Thank you,  
Carol McConnell  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tracee Yablon Brenner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My thoughts on the Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare, and all people should have access to equal and affordable healthcare in America. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because I feel everyone is entitled to affordable healthcare. My story is I grew up with two parents who became ill. My mother was diagnosed with Hodgkins Disease when I was 7 years old and went to the NIH for experimental treatment with cobalt radiation which isn't used anymore. The doctors told her she would live another 20 years which she did. My mother was in the hospital when I was 16 years old and my father had his first heart attack. He went on to have an esophagus bypass but Unfortunately, he did not receive the correct diagnosis. At the time they had good insurance if they did not my family would have gone bankrupt with all of the expenses.

My parent's illnesses inspired me to go back to school to become a registered dietitian nutritionist. There are many studies and doctors realizing the importance of good nutrition and it is important to start with children so they can grow up eating nourishing food which will instill good habits and keep them healthy. It is important to have insurance reimbursement for nutrition counseling as well as nutrition and foods in schools.

I am a single Mom with my own business and it is important to have affordable health insurance as you don't know what could happen with your health. An accident could occur which affordable healthcare is necessary for a period of time.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Together let's work to bring the CARE back to healthcare in America. People, not politics. Let's work together, please! I feel that everyone including people with pre-existing condition(s), disability (visible and invisible), cancer, childbirth, mental health is entitled to good health insurance that is affordable.

Sincerely, Tracee  
Grandview on Hudson, NY

*Tracee*

**Tracee Yablon Brenner RDN CHHC**  
Nutrition Communications Consultant

[REDACTED]

**TRIAD TO WELLNESS**  
Consultants in Health & Nutrition  
Communications for food brands  
and commodity boards

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Tiffany Charles [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop stealing from Americans to subsidize the Military Industrial Complex

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Congressperson/Senator:

Sick of your stealing from, lying to, and manipulating the people to fatten the wallets of your donors.

Where is your conscience?

Graham/Cassidy bill is preposterous and simply does not meet the needs of the people.

JUST SAY NO!!

From, An American Woman who cares about a healthy society

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** T Lin Chase <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller.

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.

Bipartisan development of a better approach is required.

Lin L. Chase  
San Francisco, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ann Woloson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments for SFC re: Cassidy-Graham  
**Attachments:** SFC AW Letter Final1.docx

Hello,  
Please accept these comments regarding the Cassidy-Graham proposal for which the Senate Finance Committee is holding a hearing today.

Thank you,  
Ann Woloson

Ann Woloson  
Policy Analyst  
Maine Equal Justice Partners

[REDACTED]  
Augusta, ME [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Adrien Logsdon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy Bill. My family relies on ACA!

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

My story with Medicaid is that my son was diagnosed with Epilepsy at the age of 11 months. Without Medicaid we would not have been able to afford all of the tests, visits to the neurologist and medication. It is still a mystery as to why he has seizures.

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

Sincerely,

Adrien Logsdon  
Fairfield, IA



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tanya Pluth [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham Cassidy bill

Hello,

I am a small business owner employing fewer than 5 people. My business can operate as a start-up because my family is able to have health insurance through the exchange.

If Graham-Cassidy passes, it will directly put my business out of business.

I have a pre-existing condition, as does my spouse - health insurance companies denied coverage to me and my spouse prior to the ACA when I was an independent contractor, before I started my business. As a result, I had to give up my contracting and get hired at a dead-end job just so I could have health insurance coverage.

Should Graham-Cassidy be put up for a vote and pass, I would immediately shutter my business and secure a dead end job just so I can provide my family with health insurance. I'd have to fire my employees, and I will be sure to tell them it is because Republicans don't care about keeping health care accessible and affordable. Graham-Cassidy would put at least one fledgling business out of business. Since I started my business, I've had 200% growth year after year, but won't be able to sustain loss of health care coverage through the exchange.

Do you really want Americans to make all of their entrepreneurial decisions based on health insurance coverage? If not, then you must oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I implore you to kill the Graham - Cassidy bill, possibly the most heartless, cruel bill to stain the halls of the legislative chambers of the U.S.

Sincerely,

Tanya Pluth  
Small business owner  
Beaverton, Oregon

--

Because home is where the music plays...

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bo Mullen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 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.

Robert L.Mullen-Republican  
Palm Beach Gardens, Fl

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of betsy hitt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** graham cassidy

Self-responsibility a key Republican ideal. We have been farmers in Alamance County for nearly 4 decades and are the picture of independence and self-responsibility. We put ourselves through college, started and operated a successful businesses, have hired hundreds of people, never missed a payroll, built every building on the farm including our house, heat with wood and raise most of our food, have paid off all of our debts and saved for retirement.

We work in the sixth most dangerous profession, much more than police or firefighters. We have always managed to have health insurance for that very reason, the number one cause farmers go out of business is because someone gets hurt and they can't pay the medical bills and have to sell the farm. Fortunately we have never had to use our insurance for an injury but premiums were becoming prohibitive until the ACA, which was a miracle for us and our farm business.

If Graham Cassidy is passed in its current horrible forms we will be some of the 32 million that will no longer have insurance because it will be too expensive. In our early sixties we have to hope we stay healthy until we reach Medicare. We are self-responsible but can't build our own hospital or do our own surgeries or make our own drugs. I think it is time for our Republican representatives to become self-responsible to their constituents, stop playing political games and seriously work on fixing our healthcare system.

Healthcare touches every citizen and is one sixth of the national economy which is why it needs to be a federal system not 50 state systems, each with its own set of rules. We don't have 50 militaries or air traffic control systems. We need the power of the larger government to negotiate with drug and insurance companies to reduce prices to make healthcare affordable for everybody.

While we are a small farm we are a very productive business with our gross farm income putting us in the top 17% of all farms nationwide. If the republican health plan is passed premiums will be 25% or more of our gross farm income which is not sustainable for us.

This is a disaster not only for farmers and rural economies but for any small business or independently employed persons who comprise most of the new jobs in the economy.

Alex & Betsy Hitt

Graham NC

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathleen Huntington [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Trump legislation

Repeal and replace is an effort by the GOP to appease political donors rather than establish a healthcare delivery system that doesn't bankrupt those who need to use it. It's appalling that there is not a bipartisan effort going on to address the shortcomings of the ACA which, in the first place, was and is being compromised by legislative maneuvering and President Trump. The ACA provides a platform from which healthcare delivery can be improved in terms of health outcomes and economic security of our citizens. The Cassidy-Graham-Trump (G-C-T) bill is a sham and a cruel alternative to real reform that REALLY serves the health and welfare of our country. Pre-existing conditions is not an outlier -- most of us have one so rather than make healthcare CEOs more economically secure let's establish a healthcare system that protects us. I worked in healthcare focusing on genetic disorders; our clinical program went to the mat with insurance companies on a regular basis to get coverage for our patients for treatment of these conditions. Genetic relates pre-existing at a molecular level so let's not kid ourselves that the Graham-Cassidy-Trump legislation is going to do right for most of us who require healthcare coverage at any hour/days/months/years of our existence. Let the pending G-C-T legislation die in committee; follow the appropriate procedures with hearings and debate and forget the GOP donors and tax breaks for the wealthy.

Kathleen Huntington

Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Avery McGinn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25, 2017

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will have negative impacts to our access to healthcare all across the country.

I want Congress to work on improving upon the ACA, stabilizing insurance markets and assuring that our access to quality healthcare is protected. The gutting of Medicaid going forward will hurt older Americans in nursing homes, poor children, and people with disabilities. This is a bad bill for all Americans. Do not pass it.

Sincerely,

Avery McGinn

[REDACTED]  
San Francisco, Ca [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Timothy Connell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Regarding Graham-Cassidy bill.

To whom it may concern:

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My sister was diagnosed with breast cancer 16 years ago. Thankfully, she dealt with it and is at the point cancer free. However, because of her situation, she has a pre-existing condition that could affect her insurance should she lose what she has and has to find other insurance. Also, I close friend has been living with a diagnosis of bi-polar disease that has affected his work situation. Because of this, he has been on disability and has been on Medicaid which affords him the treatment he needs to live as close a normal life as possible.

**I implore that Congress seek a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.**

Thank you.

Tim Connell  
New York, New York

## **Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joanne Britton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

Please do not approve of the Graham Cassidy. 1 in 5 Americans depend upon Medicaid as their insurance including disabled children, disabled adults, and most nursing home care in the USA. This bill eliminates Medicaid by 2026. We still have millions of Americans who still don't have health insurance even with the Medicaid expansion and this bill kills all of those gains and then goes further to cut away prior Medicaid with at least 32 million Americans without insurance. Americans will die without access to healthcare. It is that simple. Without healthcare, people will die. "Access" to healthcare IF you can pay the high prices might work for Billionaires but not for Americans.

People will die without Medicaid.

Hold more hearings from Medicaid administrators from any state or all 50 states, they all agree this bill does not make things better for Americans but does HARM to Americans

Please VOTE NO on Graham Cassidy.

Thank you.

**Joanne**

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karen and Bruce [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:35 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing; Hearing  
Hearing Date: September 25, 2017  
Full Name: Richard Bruce Menke  
Address: [REDACTED] Athens, GA [REDACTED]

Incredibly, this abomination (Graham-Cassidy), according to the Brooking Institute and other sources, is even worse than previous attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. At least 15 million lose coverage, more that \$200 billion is taken from Medicaid and subsidies to provide heath care for the poor, Medicaid is gutted and protection of those with pre-existing conditions disappears. The supporters of the bill are so afraid of what the CBO scoring will show that they want a vote on the bill before the CBO report is available to the public, evidence enough that even the supporters of the bill are ashamed of it and expect that public outrage over the contents of the CBO report will, yet again, force them to withdraw it and consider new careers in Siberia.

By now, the public thoroughly understands that the reason for this bill, and the only reason, is to engineer the transfer of hundreds of billions of dollars to the very wealthiest individuals and groups in the United States. Astonishingly, the supporters of the bill are determined to destroy the availability, such as it is, of health care to millions of Americans, including, as in the case of Cassidy, their very own constituents.

“When will they ever learn, when will they ever learn?”

Bruce Menke



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jan Gallagher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** roberts@senate.gov; moran@senate.gov  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (GCHJ) bill

To: Senate Finance Committee  
RE Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (GCHJ) bill

Under all ACA Repeal versions, I fall in the age gap for insurance coverage at 58 yrs old without a wage that supports a living. I was outsourced from Sprint 8 years ago and have not had sustainable livable wages. This is normal corporate practice in America and needs to be considered in any Healthcare plan. I am a degreed accountant/financial analyst by trade. I also spent 16 years as a military spouse and lost healthcare when I divorced. Since the only way to get health care coverage in this country is through a corporate employer, active or retire from military and stay married to am retired military member, disabled or 65 yrs or older. Most small businesses do not offer healthcare coverage.

I have made sure I had healthcare coverage my whole life, and paid in far more than I received in benefits, as I was healthy. Since I will not be able to afford coverage without a job that provides health care, I would be considered having a pre existing condition. Did you know that reaching menopause is a diagnosis and considered a preexisting condition? I am currently being tested for autoimmune disease and will need the coverage I hoped I would not need to use. Insurance is not the vehicle for covering medical care. We need to look at the life span of citizen's not the current short term annual profit model.

My premiums will increase significantly and my out of pocket costs will increase for Healthcare that is currently provided under ACA. I will not be able to afford healthcare.

Blue Cross Blue Shield recently announced they are leaving the Marketplace in Kansas due to uncertainty created by the many attempts to gut healthcare by the GOP. The uncertainty and failure of the ACA is due to the political environment, the fact that many States (Kansas included) did not participate, and the funding which has been withdrawn. This year more people chose not to be covered due to the rise in premiums; thus causing more uncertainty. The original formula to make ACA work required a few key components; such as full participation by all and funding.

My son's, who has Muscular Dystrophy, receives services under Medicare that do not meet his current needs. I have watched him decline and be neglected. With the proposed cuts he will die.

As a concerned citizen I do not want to see or know that my fellow neighbors do not have health coverage. With caps on benefit payout, many American's will be forced into bankruptcy and our neighborhoods will suffer. When houses go into foreclosure, house prices drop. Money that could go into maintaining houses, dining out or other disposable income spending that keep local economies alive will be negatively affected.


We live in the wealthiest Nation of the World and we can provide healthcare to all citizens, the same or better than other countries. GCHJ) is not the right choice at this time. I along with millions of others require our leaders to investigate single payer healthcare along with other forms or methods of providing healthcare that is acceptable to all.

This bill was hastily put together and is being amended daily in a closed session without any input from experts in the medical field, or Americans. The time frame forcing a vote is tight and U.S. citizens have not been informed. We have a moral dilemma when we allow approx. 23 million Americans to lose health care and 18 million are already currently without it. I do not want that on my conscience and am afraid for the life of my son and my own. I urge you to oppose GCHJ) and work towards a humane and sustainable plan to made healthcare available to all as promised in the presidential campaign.

Ramming this bill through in a last minute desperate attempt for individual person gain by Senators under budget reconciliation is a sham and a shame.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is still in the process of scoring this bill. While they plan to have a preliminary analysis completed by next week, the CBO “will not be able to provide point estimates of the effects on the deficit, health insurance coverage, or premiums for at least several weeks.” Furthermore, few congressional hearings have been scheduled to discuss this bill. Voting on this bill without a full CBO analysis and congressional review is a disservice to the millions of Americans it will impact.

I urge you to support bi-partisan efforts to stabilize the healthcare marketplace and improve healthcare for all. A July Reuters poll found that 64% of respondents wanted Congress to fix the ACA, not repeal it. It is unconscionable that Republicans would cut off productive bipartisan talks to push through an unpopular health law while bypassing the Congressional Budget Office scoring process.

Sincerely,  
Jan Gallagher  
Leawood, KS 



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Newman <diane.bradley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't do this to my family

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. That is why I am against it Graham – Cassidy repeal currently in the Senate. I have a pre-existing condition and so does my four-month-old baby girl. We could both be denied health care if this repeal goes through. We both could die. At the very least, it would ruin our family financially.

I would like to see it bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA. Please. Work together.

Diane Newman

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** grace cisneros <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

This bill has nice words and phrase but you know it is a sham. It is an attempt to pay your donors. Justify tax breaks for the top income earners. This is the Republican's way of dealing with a surplus of low income, diseased, and elder citizens. The Graham Cassidy bill will increase the death rate in the United States of America.

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. It starts the process of denying healthcare in the United States. When I was buying my own health care insurance I was terrified of the preexisting and financial caps clauses and that i might not be able to make the next payment. If I bought a health insurance from a different company preexisting conditions would not be covered. The cost of my monthly insurance premiums increased at a greater rate than my income.

I support a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA.

Grace Cisneros  
Ferndale, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Penny Johnson <pjohnson@hopeworxinc.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

This bill will be especially devastating to those who have chronic illnesses and receive medicaid or medicaid expansion. My husband has End Stage Renal Failure and Heart Failure and relies on Medicaid to supplement all that Medicare does not cover. With this new Block Grant system Pa could decide not to have Medicaid expansion which would essentially sign his death certificate!! At 47 years old he already has had to fight to receive procedures and medications he need to survive. With out medicaid and Medicare combined there is no hope.

Penny Johnson

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mark Hilliker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill on Health Care  
**Attachments:** SenateFinance\_GrahamCassidyHellerJohnsonBill09252017.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached a letter in regard to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill on health care. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment. Thank you.

Regards,

Mark



**Mark K. Hilliker**  
Chief Executive Officer | Inclusa, Inc.  
[REDACTED]  
Office [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carolyn Wright <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare comments

Along with most everyone else in the country, I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, which would make those needs much more difficult for me to meet. At present time, I receive healthcare insurance through my job, BUT, it is a seasonal position and I need to obtain my own insurance for the 4 months I am off work - I can not afford the COBRA cost. The challenge is that I have 2 months each in different calendar years, meaning that what I obtain for Nov-Dec in one year (with its deductible) may not be the best choice for Jan-Feb in the next year. Fortunately for me, I have been able to be covered by the Oregon Health Plan under expanded Medicaid. I make a point of taking care of all my routine medical needs while I am working and have not made any claims under Medicaid. Prior to the ACA I went without insurance for the winter months.

Prior to my current job I needed to obtain my own health insurance as an individual. This was a horrible experience which was repeated each year as I needed to see how much rates had increased each year, which companies would cover the local doctors (I live in a rural area), and how much deductible I would need to choose so I could afford the premiums. Aside from coverage, such as mammograms, which Oregon required be covered, there were many conditions that companies would not cover. Basically, I had to pay all my medical costs less whatever was the negotiated price the insurance had with the doctor. Fortunately, I am a healthy person and for the most part did not have pre-existing conditions. The first year I needed to apply I learned quickly that even if a previous problem wouldn't even have been covered it could still be used as an excuse to not to provide coverage, plus in subsequent applications I would be asked if I had ever been turned down for insurance.

Healthcare needs to be affordable and accessible for everyone, not just those who are wealthy and healthy. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. We CAN afford healthcare for all, if we choose to prioritize it over tax cuts and spending on military.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Wright

[REDACTED]  
The Dalles, Oregon [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Atlas <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Hurt, Nikki (Markey); Pearson, Beth (Warren); John D. Nash  
**Subject:** Comments from Franciscan Children's on Graham-Cassidy Bill for 2 PM Hearing Today  
**Attachments:** Graham Cassidy Bill Concerns from Franciscan Children's.pdf

Hi,  
Attached are comments from Franciscan Children's expressing our concerns with regard to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Franciscan Children's is the only pediatric post-acute care hospital in Massachusetts serving children with complex medical needs and one of the largest pediatric mental health providers in the state. We hope that these comments will be helpful for today's 2 pm hearing on the bill.

If you could confirm receipt of this email, it would be greatly appreciated.

Best,

**Jennifer Atlas, MS**  
Director of Strategy and Special Projects  
Franciscan Children's

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Restad [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** restad@sbcglobal.net  
**Subject:** Stop this Insane Bill

Republicans are out of their minds trying to ram their devastating healthcare bill at the American people! It is one of the most disgraceful acts ever. Fix what we have & show us you care more about our citizens than the \$ support of lobbyist.  
Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Buel Almquist-Lee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM:  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing: Sept 25, 2017

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing:  
September 25, 2017  
Buel Almquist Lee, Granite State Independent Living  
[REDACTED] Center Conway, NH [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

There are many people that require Medicaid assistance on a daily basis that are not visible to the public eye. I am one of those people reliant upon the CFI waiver of Medicaid to live at home. The proposed Graham Cassidy Bill with its block grant distribution to states would be a detrimental blow to the disabled community across the US, cutting much needed assistance even further.

The assistance I need is very real, direct, and personal, and understandably intangible to those that are able-bodied. As someone that cannot functionally use their arms or legs against gravity, this translates to an inability to do the very basic things for oneself which are necessary for survival. Activities such as getting out of bed, putting on clothes, opening a door, bathing and toileting oneself, even making a sandwich and pouring a glass of milk, are things that I cannot do. Every task that one wishes to accomplish is a complex choreography of micro movements all attuned to each other. An able-bodied person does not have to think of any of these micro movements to achieve their desires. In fact, they might barely be aware of what they are doing while their minds are occupied with a thousand unrelated thoughts. This is not the case for someone disabled. I need to plan everything I do. A simple task is a negotiation that begins with interviewing and training a hard to find caregiver willing to work for low wages, to training through repetition. As wonderful as my caregivers are, and they are the unsung heroes of my life, this is a slow laborious means to navigate through life.

When people see me in my wheelchair, they perceive my main difficulties as those related to walking and the lack of access into and within a building. That is in fact, the easy part. The challenging part is all of the accompanying, seemingly inconsequential movements that are essential to living any kind of substantial, not to mention safe life. These are the activities that I fear will be whittled away once block grants reduce the hours of service otherwise obtained by me. The problem is that just because hours of benefits are reduced on paper, the need does not simply go away. The solution is one that perhaps makes sense in theory conjured up by people that have never had to live with the kinds of needs we are discussing here. This is not livable for people that actually use benefits like the CFI waiver.

My life will not be substantially altered if there is no caregiver to hand me a book, but I will not survive if someone won't feed me, keep me warm, or help to keep me clean. This is ultimately difficult to write about, because it seems hard to believe that I need to make a case for us as a nation to have compassion for human beings who cannot do for themselves. As I mentioned at the beginning, there are many of us that are invisible, living behind closed doors, many too sick to advocate for themselves. With the changes that are supported under the Graham-Cassidy Bill, people will be hurt. We depend upon those that can, to care.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue.  
Sincerely,

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anita Pokorny [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are both 57 years old and each have several pre-existing medical conditions, so we rely heavily on quality, affordable healthcare. My husband spent all of his adult life working in jobs that required a great deal of physical labor, and is now permanently disabled and unable to work. His inability to work has already placed a greater financial burden on us, and this new health care bill could make health care completely unaffordable to us. In addition, any life-time caps in health care costs could mean a loss of coverage for him. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Instead, I strongly support a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Anita Pokorny  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ravenna, OH [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nicole Ritter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller. 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 have two children with asthma, a pre-existing condition that would bar them from accessing insurance at a reasonable rate. Please consider the lives of your constituents.

Nicole Rosenleaf Ritter  
Bozeman, Montana

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Beth Morris Weiss [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 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.

Elizabeth Weiss  
Chapel Hill, NC

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stacy Saltzer Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** TRUMPCARE

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

A serious illness is personally and financially devastating. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses should not go bankrupt in order to receive medical care. Children should not die because their parents cannot afford healthcare.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Saltzer Smith

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Lund <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Concerns about Health Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a medical student, soon to be a surgeon, going to school at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Through my studies and through my clinical years, I have seen countless patients who are only able to receive the care they need because of the ACA. Myself, my family and my patients 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 - and I stand very against the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Best Regards,

Sarah Lund

Rochester, MN

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary Ellen Teshima <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy.The New TrumpCare

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of Health Care. Giving each state a certain amt of money to care for its citizens is impossible for states to take care of it's citizens appropriately.. If someone has a special needs child with cardiac problems do you expect the child to be abandoned by their parents if sometime throughout the child's life( because it may be expensive chronic care) they run out of money? Many Americans had home foreclosure. Why? Research showed someone got sick and needed expensive health care or they lost their jobs.

I worked in a hospital and met former patients who went bankrupt because of health care costs before the Affordable care Act was established..

This bill does nothing to improve health care or stability of Americans.. There is no innovation with this plan. It decreases access to health care. Primary care Doctors are the " Heros " that have the knowledge to prevent chronic diseases. Access and preventive screenings and vaccinations prevent diseases. Which choice will the States make, preventive care which is costly in dollars initially but cost effective in healthier people using less expensive health services ,Or do states do the bandaid approach, you get sick, fix them up with expensive care or they die? ?

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 Ellen Teshima  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Katie Madigan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have multiple pre-existing conditions including depression, anxiety, hypothyroidism, and complications from Polycystic Ovarian Disease. My daughter has a severe life-threatening allergy to peanuts and tree nuts and asthma. We require multiple medications that can at times be quite expensive! We need our insurance to help alleviate the costs of these medications without which we would be very unhealthy or possibly die.

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

Sincerely,  
Katherine Madigan  
[REDACTED]  
Urbana, IL [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Heather Nestor <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Heather Nestor and I am a registered nurse at Allegheny General Hospital, in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania.

I am writing because I have a ten year old daughter, Katelyn, who was unfortunately diagnosed with type 1 diabetes last year. Her pancreas no longer makes the insulin her body needs. There is never a moment that goes by, that diabetes does not affect our lives. Katelyn, must check her blood sugar multiple times a day, before every meal, during sports or gym class, before bed and in the middle of the night - if she is sick, even more often. This means she must stick her finger with a needle to check the level of sugar in her blood.

Next, she must calculate for every ounce of food she plans to eat. Do you know how many carbs are in everything you eat? She has to, because her life depends on it. Katie must figure out how much insulin her body needs compared to what her current bloodsugar is and how many carbs she plans to eat. Sound confusing? Imagine being only ten and trying to figure out all this math just to eat!

After the math test, she has to prep her insulin, correctly set the right amount and then inject herself. The only way to get insulin into the body is by a needle. You can't just take a pill. This happens EVERY TIME she eats!

Too much insulin can cause her bloodsugar to critically decrease resulting in coma, or death. Too little insulin can cause here bloodsugar to rise drastically causing severe complications potentially damaging her other organs.

This is a devastating diagnosis, that currently does not have a cure. Katelyn will have to live with this regime for the rest of her life. Diabetes doesn't take a break, it doesn't go on vacation, it doesn't care if you are having a bad day.

Diabetes is also very expensive! Even with our insurance, without help from the government we would struggle to afford all Katelyn's medical supplies every month. Without insulin, Katelyn would die!

I am begging you on behalf of Katelyn and all the other parents of type 1 diabetic children to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy Bill!

Thank You So Much for listening to Katelyn's story! And please help us to keep out vibrant, amazing, and brave little girl alive and healthy!

Thank you - Heather Nestor

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ellen Mallory [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy

My two teenage daughters have pre-existing conditions that make me fear for their future under a health care coverage system that the Graham-Cassidy bill would create. One has Crohn's disease, the other inflammatory bowel disease. This latest effort to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) jeopardizes patient care by letting states seek waivers that would allow insurers on the individual markets to:

- Discriminate against persons with pre-existing conditions by charging higher premiums based on age and health status
- Offer plans without adequate coverage including plans that don't provide prescription drug benefits
- Reintroduce annual and lifetime caps on services states choose not to include in the Essential Health Benefits package

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score of similar plans, the above components would increase the cost of insurance as well as out of pocket costs for individuals with pre-existing conditions. This would make healthcare unaffordable and inaccessible to the chronic illness community subject to those marketplaces. It is critical that solutions to the healthcare system continue to support the community by maintaining the patient protections implemented in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and ensuring that plans meet basic coverage standards.

In addition, I am appalled that an issue that so profoundly affects the lives of so many average Americans would be treated in such a hasty and careless manner. The Graham-Cassidy bill is being rushed through without careful review. That and the fact that the bill appears to retaliate against states that tried their best to make the ACA work (through their proposed block grant formula) makes this bill look like pure, cynical partisanship.

Ellen Mallory  
[REDACTED]

Orono, Maine

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** randy clark [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy healthcare

To Graham/Cassidy

As a 63 year old natural born American taxpaying citizen it appalls me that you are attempting to bribe Susan Collins and Linda Murkowski. If this is allowed the entire republican party should go to prison. This bill sucks and everyone other than the mainstream republicans know this. You two are a disgrace to the American taxpayers. What you're attempting to do is total BS. Try doing something for the people and not the rich who pad your campaigns with millions of dollars. Forget about the Koch Brothers and think about the people of this great nation. Both your states, South Carolina and Louisiana, are two of the poorest states in the nation. Try helping them out instead of trying to destroy anything good about our country.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Allison Tartalia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Please oppose this bill, which would take health insurance away from millions of Americans. Additionally, we cannot set a precedent that allows congress to bribe the states of senators who are opposed to a piece of legislation.

Thank you,  
Allison Tartaglia  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Syler <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I strongly oppose the Graham-Casside bill. Block granting Medicaid is a sure way to decrease health care benefits for the poor. As you know, the block grants will grow at a slower rate than health care costs, which will force states into cutting benefits.

If this is a good bill, let it go through the normal process of hearings and vettings. NO, absolutely NO, health care organizations have endorsed this bill; in fact, countless numbers oppose the bill because it is a bad bill. Why not spend time fine-tuning Obamacare, which admittedly needs improvement?

Susan Syler, RN  
A citizen concerned about the health of all US citizens

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** heidi baumgarten [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy bill

I oppose the Graham/Cassidy bill because ACA was the right start and it would be much more constructive to improve ACA in a bipartisan effort, instead of repealing it. Healthcare should be a basic human right and not a privilege and President Obama did the right step into this direction. I know many people who are dependent on their existing health care because they have fought cancer or other ill conditions, which are now pre-existing conditions.

Sincerely  
Heidi Baumgarten  
Los Angeles, [REDACTED]  
California

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Taylor Frazier [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Mann, Steve (Schumer); Gesser, Brook (Gillibrand); Carrie Tracy  
**Subject:** HCFANY Comments on GCHJ Proposal  
**Attachments:** HCFANY\_SFC\_Letter\_GC.pdf

Good Morning:

Please see attached for comments from the Health Care For All New York Coalition in regard to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Taylor Frazier

Taylor Lauren Frazier, MPH  
Policy Associate, Health Initiatives  
Pronouns: She, her, hers, ella

**Community Service Society of New York**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear esteemed members of the committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. One of my brothers was born with a combination of autism and mental retardation; another was born with Down's Syndrome and profound physical defects, including the absence of a pulmonary artery. Before his surgery to place a stent, when he started to laugh or to cry, he would quietly pass out and turn blue. Without proper health insurance, my parents would have been bankrupted in very short order as they attempted to care for my brothers, and all of our lives would have pulled into the depths of poverty. Additionally, two of my sisters-in-law have fought aggressive cancers; it is only because they have / had access to health care that they were able to do so without declaring bankruptcy.

I would keenly like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to repair the Affordable Care Act, to work together to genuinely improve health insurance affordability and accessibility for the American people. I beseech you to stop trying to score points off of one another and actually serve the constituents who voted you into office.

With respect,

Kate Powers

Stage Director **SDC** | Textual Scholar | Teacher | Acting Coach  
Artistic Director, *The Redeeming Time Project*

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Schilling <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy Bill

**Good Morning,**

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,

Elizabeth Schilling  
Sequim, Washington

Sent from Outlook

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Cohen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** MediCare for All! I want a bipartisan effort to improve ACA, not repeal it.

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have relied both on Medi-cal and ObamaCare—I and my husband are hardworking individuals who mix freelance work with sometimes full time work. I have a doctorate and I contribute to our country both with my work and with my taxes. My husband is highly skilled with a bachelor's degree and makes significant contributions to the American economy as well. The American and global economies are volatile and fragmented so getting good health coverage from employers is becoming less and less realistic for us and for middle class Americans in general. I have an allergy to bee stings which was formerly considered a pre-existing condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I support MediCare for All!

Sincerely,

Emily Cohen Ibañez, Ph.D.

Filmmaker, Anthropologist, and Educator

Santa Cruz, California

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Angela M. Hebner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern, I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. As an individual with pre-existing conditions, the bill gives me great concern about managing my chronic conditions and future insurability. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Angela Hebner  
Glenmont, NY

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kimberly Meigh <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not repeal the ACA

My husband, daughter, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both my daughter and I have pre-existing conditions that would not allow us to afford medication we need to stay healthy if the Affordable Care Act were replaced by this new bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

**/ Kimberly M. Meigh, Ph.D., CCC-SLP**  
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders  
West Virginia University

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stuart Robinson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 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.

Stuart Robinson  
Berkeley, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Debra Pisacreta [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Debra Pisacreta  
[REDACTED]

Lambertville, NJ [REDACTED]

I rely on affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As I understand the bill, the states will have less money which would harm or eliminate affordable health insurance to the most vulnerable people - poor, elderly, and those with pre-existing conditions. In fact our governor, Chris Christie, has said that he is opposed to the bill which will take nearly \$4 billion away from the state of New Jersey.

On a personal note, I have Leukemia, and am concerned about affording insurance if the protections for people with pre-existing conditions are not kept in place. In addition, I have a niece with cerebral palsy who is dependent on Medicaid funding, and a brother who works as a music teacher and who has only recently been able to afford decent health insurance through the ACA.

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

Sincerely,  
Debra Pisacreta  
Lambertville, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Molly Oliver <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Feedback on Graham Cassidy Revisions

Bribing senators by carving out benefits not allowed other states is cowardly and destructive. This is truly deplorable. Health care should not be a political football. I am strongly registering my disgust for this bill.

Molly Oliver  
Hawaii



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Caroline & Andy Armstrong [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**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

I am a 56-year old, hard-working American woman. I have been in the work force since graduating from college. For the first time in my life, as of 2016, I had to leave full-time employment due to a PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITION that began when I was a teen, resulted in two surgeries, and in recent years, has rendered me unable to work for weeks on end. I made the difficult decision that it would be best for my overall long term health to leave full -time employment, but still work on a part-time basis. The trade-off was that I'd no longer receive benefits. I analyzed the financial impact carefully, recognizing that since I am on the ACA, despite being ineligible for subsidies, I could afford to do this. Enacting the Graham-Cassidy bill will upend my decision and leave me (and millions of others) in a perilous situation.

Graham-Cassidy will spell disaster to New Jersey, my home state, which is projected to lose \$3.9 billion in federal funding and across the country. While the bill is especially punitive toward those states that took advantage of Medicaid expansion under the ACA, largely "blue states," in the end, when federal Medicaid expansion funds go away and the temporary block grants disappear, every state will suffer. In the short and long term, the individual market place, where I'm headed in January of 2018, will be sent into utter turmoil. Apparently, the GOP leadership has no interest in awaiting a CBO score before bringing this bill to a vote, and I understand, proposes a 90-second debate on the bill prior to the vote, with only Graham and Cassidy weighing in. Even without the CBO score, the Commonwealth Fund has weighed in and concludes that this bill will throw millions of Americans off of insurance. <http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/blog/2017/sep/potential-effects-of-graham-cassidy>

This bill, unlike the prior (and equally horrible) repeal/replace bills and amendments put forth this year, proposes a drastically different structure for health care in this country. That in itself demands a careful, thoughtful analysis and plenty of debate, public hearings and town hall discussions. This political attempt to ram a horrible bill through Congress, with no public hearings worth mentioning, in complete disregard of those in the medical and insurance industry who have weighed in, in complete disregard for the group of bipartisan governors who recently weighed in, is a travesty and an attack on America's health. I think Senator Grassley's statement probably sums up the sentiment of many in support of the Graham-Cassidy bill. In an article published in the Sept 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Des Moines Register, Mr. Grassley is quoted as having said "You know, I could maybe give you 10 reasons why this bill shouldn't be considered," Grassley said. "But Republicans campaigned on this so often that you have a responsibility to carry out what you said in the campaign. That's pretty much as much of a reason as the substance of the bill." And there we have it: politics over people.

According to the Kaiser Health Tracking Poll taken in August of this year, 78% of Americans think Mr. Trump and his administration should do what they can to make the current health care law work rather than sabotage it, and 57% want Republicans in Congress to work with Democrats to improve the ACA but not repeal the law. We want things fixed but that doesn't translate into fast-tracking bad legislation that will destroy lives. **This bill must be voted down.** There are too many lives and livelihoods at risk, including my own. I applaud recent efforts in both Houses of Congress to work on health care improvements and fixes in a bipartisan manner. The fact that the Senate has shut the door on Sen Alexander's bipartisan committee is another example of placing politics above the country's well-being. Let's continue down the path of bipartisanship and regular order and stop this political game that is flat out dangerous for America at so many levels.

Thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** marcelli@nysenate.gov; hannon@nysenate.gov; ephillips@nysenate.gov; brooks@nysenate.gov; kaminsky@nysenate.gov  
**Subject:** GCH Comment

**Please oppose Graham-Cassidy and any other bill that cuts, caps, or imposes block grants or per capita caps on Medicaid!**

- 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!

Donna Pawlikowsky  
Executive Assistant/Office Mgr.  
Long Island Center for Independent Living, Inc.

[REDACTED]  
Levittown, NY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** William W. Flythe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to vote **NO** on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Health Care Proposal. I am particularly concerned about the impact the bill will have on people with mental health or substance use disorders. I oppose the bill for the following reasons:

**It allows states to drop the requirement to cover mental health or substance use care.** Today, Exchange plans are required to cover essential health benefits, which include treatment for mental health and substance use conditions. Under this bill, each state will have the freedom to drop or change these requirements, putting mental health and substance use benefits at risk.

**It shifts Medicaid funding to a "per capita cap" system.** Shifting to per capita cap funding (a fixed amount of funding per person) may sound reasonable, but would not keep up with growth in costs and needs. This would result in states being forced to cut Medicaid services and eligibility, which would harm children and adults with mental illness.

**It effectively ends Medicaid expansion.** One in three people covered by Medicaid expansion plans lives with a mental health or substance use condition. Under this bill, Medicaid expansion would be converted to a smaller, temporary block grant that states could use for health coverage or any other health purpose, with no guarantee of mental health or substance use coverage.

**It reduces help to purchase health insurance.** Block grants would provide a fixed amount of temporary federal funding to replace insurance subsidies, severely cutting federal help for people to buy insurance. This will leave many people unable to afford the coverage they need for mental health or substance use treatment.

Please vote **NO** on this potentially devastating bill.

Sincerely,

William Flythe, LCPC  
Outpatient Therapist  
The Mental Health Center of Western Maryland, Inc.

[REDACTED]  
Hagerstown, MD [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Secure Fax: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

As an outpatient care manager My patients and I all rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The provisions of the ACA such as allowing me to stay on my parents' plan until age 26 and the subsidized insurance plans on the insurance exchange which allows my patients of varying income levels gain coverage have been absolutely vital. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Burgdorf

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David Delgado <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSITION to Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

My name is David Delgado. I am a registered Democrat voter within the state of Florida. My address is 12458 SW 122nd St., Miami, FL 33186 and my telephone number is 305-726-7722. My e-mail address is [David1575@gmail.com](mailto:David1575@gmail.com).

I want to stress again that I am a registered voter in the state of Florida.

I want to voice my VEHEMENT OPPOSITION to the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill.

I am sorry - but I fall into the camp where health care is a right - not a privilege. Here are my issues and concerns with the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill:

Issue #1: The Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill would give states the power to waive the requirement of covering pre-existing conditions without charging more, which was mandated under the Affordable Care Act. People with disabilities or chronic diseases (like my sister), people who have had cancer (like my sister), and parents of children born with health problems - would be unable to afford health insurance.

Issue #2: The federal/state Medicaid insurance program provides health care for 20 percent of all Americans, including 40 percent of children, half of all births, 60 percent of nursing home expenses and 25 percent of mental health care. The Graham-Cassidy bill would transform the structure of Medicaid, giving states control over how they spend federal funds. The bill cuts Medicaid funding over time. Meaning people who rely on Medicaid in order to receive medical care - like my sister, who suffered a massive intracerebral hemorrhage from an arteriovenous malformation in her brain, at the age of 36 - and then was diagnosed with breast cancer at 44 - would be unable to seek out medical care, because over time, Medicaid would no longer cover her medical expenses.

Issue #3: Essential Health Benefits: The Affordable Care Act requires that insurers cover 10 "essential health benefits," including maternity care, mental health, hospitalization, prescription drugs, emergency care, and children's health. The Graham-Cassidy bill would let states opt out of those requirements, affecting insurance sold on the exchanges and employer-based coverage. But economists say that won't lower health costs as much as the bills' backers may hope, since the three biggest drivers of health costs are hospital care, doctor visits and prescription drugs — three things states may be most reluctant to cut.

Based on these three very serious issues and concerns - I encourage my senators, Senator Marco Rubio of Florida and Senator Bill Nelson of Florida - and other members of the U.S. Senate - to vote AGAINST the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Delgado

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lynda Hicks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov  
**Subject:** Against the Graham-Cassidy bill

To Whom It May Concern:

Ohioans depend on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill would cut approximately \$20 Billion through 2036 from Ohio's Medicaid, which provides care to Ohio's most vulnerable people. This bill would cause 200,000 Ohioans to lose health insurance through the exchanges and 700,000 who obtained insurance through the Medicaid expansion. This bill threatens Medicaid coverage for 71,000 Ohio veterans! This bill threatens the Ohio Medicaid in Schools Program, threatens hospitals and jobs, hurts rural communities. This bill would permit insurance companies to raise premiums for seniors. As a senior, I am on a fixed income, & feel that this is discriminatory and a shameful move for those in Congress, who have a secured income & health insurance for life paid for by us, the taxpayers. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA.**

Thank you for your attention to my comment,

Lynda HicksA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristin Sherwood [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday September 25, 2017

The vast majority of the community college students I teach rely on quality, affordable healthcare, including in many instances, Medicaid. Because of this — and dozens of other reasons — I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kristin Sherwood  
Resident  
Portland, Oregon  
Clark College Instructor  
Vancouver, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Potera <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, I have been able to maintain health coverage while under-employed, or employed in multiple part time positions. Thanks to the Medicaid expansion I was able to have preventative care coverage, and not just emergency care coverage. As I have improved my positions, I have been able to adjust my health coverage to be more comprehensive, particularly in relation to women's health. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Susan Potera

Rochester, NY



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Phyllis Vine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My health is at stake

Dear Senators,

Everybody in my family, from young to old, would be hurt by the current Graham-Cassidy bill.

My family includes relatives who are professionals as well as farmers, students as well as teachers, stock brokers as well as investors, and we live in more than six states from coast to coast (although predominantly in the Mid-west). We are young and old(er), self-employed or working for multinational companies, affluent or living on fixed incomes, paying taxes, voting, and active members of communities. We are a large, robust group of Democrats and Republicans. And, within our ranks of three generations we are also afflicted with asthma, in remission from cancer, managing mental illness, diagnosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, osteoporosis, allergies, cardiac or lung disorders. We are, as can be seen, a typical American family!

Access to health care enables us to maintain active, contributing lives. But none of this would happen if I or my family were priced out of a market. Many of us, most actually, have a precondition of one sort or another that would seriously affect us

Please do not threaten our futures. Please continue to discuss, to build a more robust patient-centered health care system that we as Americans deserve in the 21st century.

Sincerely,  
Phyllis Vine

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mandy Moody [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill, 78737

To Whom It May Concern,

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

Sincerely,

Mandy Moody

Austin, Texas [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Carmichael <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Latest "revision of the ACA repeal"

To whom this may concern:

Please remember the 32 million Americans who will lose their healthcare insurance (which may include me, a hard-working, 1-person small business owner buying insurance on the exchange) as you consider the updated legislation before you.

And to effectively bribe select members of Congress with sweeteners for their individual states in order to leverage their votes lowers our country to the level of un-transparent governments and kleptocracies around the world.

Say no to this version. Do the hard work of governance and work across the aisle to devise a genuine HEALTH CARE plan that protects Americans and betters their HEALTH. You can do it!

Regards,

Nancy S. Carmichael  
Ossining, NY

\*\*\*\*\*  
Nancy Carmichael  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Megan Foster [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

Myself and my 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,

Megan Foster

Denver, CO

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bourgault, Kristen Prof. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, September 25, 2017

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

As a young, self-employed single mother of twins, I relied on the ACA for many years to provide my family with affordable health care premiums. This was never as important as when my son broke his arm. Without the availability of this affordable coverage, we would have been required to make a lot of sacrifices in order to get him the care he needed.

My parents have been forced into early retirement and semi-retirement due to the changing economy in both the corporate world and healthcare. They too rely on the ACA to make available coverage that is affordable within their restricted budget. My father who survived both stage 3 cancer and a heart transplant now lives with many pre-existing conditions. After working hard for over 50 years to make positive contributions to our society, my parents deserve to have affordable and appropriate health care coverage.

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

Sincerely,  
Kristen S. Bourgault  
Assistant Professor, School of Education  
Quinnipiac University

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Irit Batsry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:30 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on the Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee.

As an artist whose income varies from year to year, I rely on the quality, affordable healthcare that the ACA provides. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Should this bill pass, myself and millions of other Americans will be losing accessibility. Friends with pre-existing conditions (and at a certain point we will all have pre-existing conditions) will find themselves in life endangering situations due to inability to afford healthcare. Please keep our protections. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Irit Batsry  
New York, NY.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kelsey Schraufnagel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern,

Many in my family and community rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Many of my loved ones have Medicaid and/or pre-existing conditions who have greatly benefitted from Obamacare and would be negatively impacted by this proposed bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please.

Sincerely,  
Kelsey E Schraufnagel, PsyD

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tracie Hornung [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care bill

I am appalled at the lengths the Republican Party is going through to rush through the passage of this horrible bill – lies, unfair distribution of funds to red states, and bribes to Alaska and Maine.

I realize the party is damned if the bill does pass and damned if it doesn't. However, the party's concern should simply be for the millions of people they represent who will lose health care so that Republicans can say "We did what we said we would."

Shame on them.

Tracie Hornung  
Parkdale, Oregon



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jaclyne mckinnon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments

What all this is going to happen?? How do I stop this from happening???

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Cathie Greene [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senators:

I implore you to vote no on the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill. PLEASE 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.

Cathie Greene  
[REDACTED]

Cathie Greene  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tyler Hansen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments; Tyler Hansen  
**Subject:** Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

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

I and many members of my family suffer from congenital heart disease. It has killed my mom, my grandpa and my aunt, and it caused my brother to have a massive stroke when he was 28 years old. Another aunt needed a heart transplant at age 57. I had open-heart surgery when I was 7 and deal with symptoms daily. My other brother also has the disease

I have been denied independent health care because of my pre-existing condition several times in my life. It was a complete shock to me at age 20 when I first realized that it was common practice for insurance companies to DENY care to the people who need it most. It's appalling, and it is a major stain on our country. The Affordable Care Act helps alleviate this issue. Repealing it with the garbage Graham-Cassidy bill would make our country a worse place to live for my family and so many others.

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

Sincerely,  
Tyler J. Hansen  
Tucson, Arizona

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** antnikko . <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senators:

This bill was written in the dark. There is no non-partisan budget information available. Finally, republicans writing the bill are attempting to bribe senators to change their no votes by giving more to their states.

Can you support such an immoral and deceitful bill?

It is time for the Senate to get back to regular order, and proceed with ethics, not politics, as the motivating influence.

Sincerely,  
Agnes F. Pomata

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wadmalaw Island, SC [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Tim Wilson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO: This Bill Is an Abomination

Hello,

The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill is an abomination. Any Senator who votes for it has voted only to fund tax cuts for the rich by murdering the poor. The choice here could not be more clear.

The bill turns Medicaid into block grants, which would strip millions of Americans of their health insurance coverage. The bill then ends the block grants in 2026, destroying Medicaid as we know it in a deliberate attempt to force American health insurance into the dark ages when we should be providing universal health insurance like every other wealthy nation in the world. And that's just for starters. This is a grim and horrible attempt to torture and slaughter American people. Frankly, every Senator who has even \*entertained\* voting for it should resign immediately and never return to public service, because they are clearly not committed to serving the interests of the public.

The state of American healthcare is an absolute travesty, and this bill is an expression of the why and the how of that travesty. Vote no, and instead work to set us on the path to universal coverage (NOT universal "access": we already have universal access to buying private islands, and look how much good that's doing the average American) through a federally-funded insurance system now.

Best,  
Tim

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Blanck <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate finance committee members:

This bill will not improve health care. We need to enhance and improve the ACA so MORE people can afford healthcare not less. I have a pre-existing condition of life long asthma. I get very expensive but life saving Xolair shots once a month. I am eating fir my infusion right now. Without it, my life is completely restricted.

Please do not pass this bill, work with your fellow legislators to come up with a true fix for the minor flaws in the ACA.

Yours,  
Emily Blanck  
Walnut Creek, CA [REDACTED]

Thank you  
Sent from my iPhone  
Please excuse the brevity and any typos from my iPhone.

Emily Blanck  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

"While there is a chance of the world getting through its troubles, I hold that a reasonable person has to behave as though they were sure of it. If at the end your cheerfulness is not justified, at any rate you will have been cheerful." H. G. WELLS

Thank you  
Sent from my iPhone  
Please excuse the brevity and any typos from my iPhone.

Emily Blanck  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

"While there is a chance of the world getting through its troubles, I hold that a reasonable person has to behave as though they were sure of it. If at the end your cheerfulness is not justified, at any rate you will have been cheerful." H. G. WELLS

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anu Bhatt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no

Hello,

I implore you to fight against the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal the ACA. The bill is yet another attempt to repeal Obamacare with no legitimate replacement plan.

I am on Medicaid myself, and would only be hurt by this bill passing. A facet of the ACA was to incentivize states to expand Medicaid - it is erroneous to claim that this bill will empower states when that was the point of Obamacare and states didn't do anything.

Additionally, it is absolutely shameful that there are reportedly no essential health benefits covered by this bill, or that those supporting the bill do not care to get numbers from the Congressional Budget Office to figure out how many citizens they will be screwing over in the process.

Vote no. Don't let it pass. Thank you for representing the people of Illinois and the USA.

Sincerely,

Anu Bhatt  
Chicago, IL [REDACTED]

--

~Anu

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Katherine Giscombe <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** You must vote AGAINST Graham Cassidy health care bill

The ACA provides protection for those with pre-existing conditions - the Graham Cassidy bill does not. The Republicans pushing this bill are lacking in ethics and decency, by pushing it through for a vote while they can win w/ a simple majority, rather than giving the Congressional Budget Office time to rate it. Yet, it's obvious to the entire health care industry - who have come out in force AGAINST this bill - that the bill will strip coverage from millions of Americans.

By voting for this bill, you are sentencing Americans to death.

What a shame that our elected representatives are so lacking in principle that they are willing to kill off US citizenry.

Do NOT vote for this bill.

Katherine Giscombe, Ph.D.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** David Goings <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

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

I have an aging aunt who relies on Medicaid for nursing home support; a brother who has had throats cancer, that is likely to return & could not obtain insurance if pre-existing conditions were not insurable & a friend with MS who relies on her current medical support.

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

Sincerely,

David Goings

Ann Arbor, MI

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Rebecca Cleman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a cancer patient who relies on affordable healthcare to stay alive. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I will have this chronic cancer for the rest of my life (I'm 42), and this bill will be a nail in my coffin down the line. As it is, I struggle to afford my medical bills, even with insurance.

I am relying on the work of a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Cleman

New York City, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** affordable health care

I am a blueberry farmer in the tiny town of Kings Valley, Oregon. My official address is Monmouth, Oregon because Kings Valley is too small to have a post office.

I absolutely 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,

Andrea Davis

Kings Valley Gardens

[REDACTED]  
Monmouth, OR [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Gold, [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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

Sarah Gold

[REDACTED]  
Lambertville, NJ [REDACTED]

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with a history of a heart condition, considered a pre-existing condition, would mean that I could be unable to afford health insurance if Graham-Cassidy is passed.

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

Sincerely,  
Sarah Gold  
Lambertville, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Tabitha Boshears <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposed to Cassidy-Graham

Today, I write on behalf of my disabled sister.

Under the medicaid expansion, my sister, age 27 was able to obtain health insurance through the marketplace. After obtaining insurance, she was able to receive treatment for her constant pelvic pain. My grandmother was diagnosed, and died from cervical/uterine cancer. My sister was diagnosed with severe endometriosis, indometriosis, recurring cysts and tumors, and precancerous tissue. Now, three years later, my sister has undergone 2 rounds of chemotherapy but she's still here. How can you take insurance away from her? From the millions of people who, without expanded opportunities to healthcare, would be lost, or in so much debt, they don't seek treatment?

**Tabitha Boshears**  
**8155578034**

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ann Schweers <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our Healthcare

Please fix the ACA and add a public option. Don't repeal it and replace it with something that in actuality would take away mandatory protections regarding pre-existing conditions, lifetime caps, etc. If the premiums go up then the insurance may be available but not accessible. Seniors and children with disabilities will suffer as well. Put a face on the cost to our citizenry—remember Jimmy Kimmel's infant son and the many, many more out there just like him. We don't deserve to bankrupt ourselves in order to get the healthcare we need!

Protect our healthcare!

Ann Schweers

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Laura Korin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Korin

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** antnikko . [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Senators:

This bill was written in the dark. There is no non-partisan budget information available. Finally, republicans writing the bill are attempting to bribe senators to change their no votes by giving more to their states.

Can you support such an immoral and deceitful bill?

It is time for the Senate to get back to regular order, and proceed with ethics, not politics, as the motivating influence.

Sincerely,  
Agnes F. Pomata



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Wendy Silver <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy: Illness is a Hurricane, Personally and Financially

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this month, the Senate rightly and generously voted to authorize billions of dollars in assistance to residents of the states hit hard by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

How is it that Congress is unable to see how similar illness is to a hurricane? Like floods and high winds, serious illness is personally and financially devastating to its victims. Americans who fall prey to cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and countless other serious illnesses are as much the victims of a natural disaster as are those whose lives, livelihood and homes are destroyed by a hurricane. They deserve to be treated with the same consideration and generosity of spirit as the hurricane victims.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill that would strip away the health insurance of millions of Americans. The United States needs to join the ranks of every other first-world nation in guaranteeing its citizens a right to be protected from the devastating consequences of serious illness.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy B. Silver, Esq.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Penelope Stames <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Bill

Hello,

I'm one of the literal millions of people who would be adversely affected by repealing Obamacare. I know first hand how difficult and crazy expensive it would be to replace my current coverage as I am a cancer survivor. Frankly it would be beyond my means despite the fact that I work, pay taxes and contribute to my community in many ways.

I also have a dear friend who has been fighting deadly Ovarian cancer, found when it was stage 4. She is now considered a long term survivor having reached 5 years. HOWEVER she has had several reoccurrences and is now being treated with an new experimental medication. She is totally unable to work, has refinanced her small house and is rapidly going through the money she was able to glean. She would be dead if it was not for the help she is receiving from Obamacare.

I implore you all to find a rational, non partisan and workable solution to the issues , not repeal Obamacare and leave millions of Americans without affordable health care. I Beg you to do the best thing of all Americans, not just the fortunate few who already make huge amounts of money or the few who live in the home states of the Bills sponsors... Americans deserve better form those of you we have sent to Congress to see to our best interests.

Thank you for your time.

Penelope Stames

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hank Linhart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham- Cassidy

I oppose the Graham Cassidy Health Care Legislation as it does not provide health care to all including those with pre- existing

conditions.

Any bill should restrict congressional health care to the level it is proposing for the public.

Henry Coshey Linhart

[REDACTED]

East Jewett, NY

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Crispy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy revised bill

Revised healthcare bill removes any doubt, people with preexisting conditions will be priced out of the market. This from Kaiser Foundation. Absolutely every major healthcare advocate along with AARP, Medicaid (America's largest insurer of children) vehemently oppose this bill. AMA and most doctors, who take the Hippocratic Oath 'first, do no harm', oppose this bill. Graham-Cassidy will harm the most vulnerable Americans, stripping their benefits, raising out-of-pocket costs, and eventually 30million + will lose health coverage. Are Republicans so ignorant to the facts, and uncaring of their citizens? The genie is out of the bottle. Sen Grassley as much said it, and America now knows, GOP is voting for G-C to appease their rich donors. I ask you, what profit a man if he gain the whole world but loses his soul. Further, this bill which affects 1/6 of economy, has been literally 'jammed down America's throats' with no Regular Order. Shameful power play by GOP that will surely backfire at the polls if it is passed. Are there no Republicans other than the Honorable Senator John McCain with moral integrity who will put country above party and oppose this bill? America is watching. Vote NO Graham-Cassidy

M C Spreier

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Sheila Dalton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** grandson

My grandson was born a perfectly beautiful, healthy baby. At 3 1/2, he was diagnosed with leukemia. He underwent 3 years of treatment. Today, he is healthy but will forever be one of those with a pre-existing condition. This is not fair! Think of those, who no fault of their own, have a "pre-existing condition."

Sheila Dalton

West Branch, IA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Amy Sparks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please say no to Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

Graham-Cassidy would devastate small business and the people who have built them. Here is my story:

I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 2002. Until March 2016, I worked in the IT industry and had a well-paying job. But In March 2016, it was obvious that my health had deteriorated that I could not remain an employee in the workforce. I was devastated to realize that my physical condition would keep me from working..

But I don't want to stop working. I am filing for disability, but I see it as short-term assistance. I plan to work with all of the resources provided by the Social Security Administration to put together my home-based business. The freelance marketing is booming right now and was previously expected to continue booming into and through the 2020's.

Until Graham-Cassidy came along. People will have difficulty working for themselves if they have massive premiums, deductibles, and out of pocket expenses. I just turned 50, so insurers would be able to charge me 5x as much for my insurance. Add to that the additional costs I would have to pay for my pre-existing condition, and it's obvious I would be able to afford health insurance for myself. I know I'm not the only small business/solopreneurs who would be in the same condition. That means that a group of ambitious, hard-working individuals wouldn't be able to sustain the burden of exorbitant healthcare premiums. So there's one growing job market that would be stifled, and a lot of people like me unable to pay their bills.

I don't want to be dependent on others. I don't even let people help me put my walker in the car for me, because I want to do as much for myself as possible. I want to get off of disability as quickly as I can so I can help my husband supporting our family. Both of my children want to be engineers, but how will I be able to pay for tuition if I can even pay for my healthcare?

There are so many Americans like me who want to work but are at risk because of crushing premiums and ruining job markets. Most recent studies show that healthcare job prospects are high as people are needed to care for an aging population. Many of those jobs, such as home health care, would dry up because people just couldn't afford it anymore.

And this bill would kill people. Studies show that one life is saved for each 833 people are insured. Thirty-two million people losing insurance equals more than 38,000 people. How is that pro-life? How is that making America great again?

Amy Sparks

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Nicholas Hayes <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill's Negative Impact

Dear Senators:

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 family has a connective tissue disorder which leads to potentially fatal heart conditions. Without affordable healthcare and protections for pre-existing conditions my medical bills would have bankrupted me.

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

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Hayes  
Chicago, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I am an educator and work with children in an impoverished neighborhood. I see first hand the number of students with asthma and food allergies. They need health care to manage their chronic conditions and prevent costly ER trips due to lack of regular medical monitoring and affordable medicine.

If we are pro-life before a child is born, then we must be pro life after the child is brought into the world.

*Sent from my Verizon LG Smartphone*



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Roger Irland <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Greetings;

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,

Sincerely  
Roger Irland  
Phoenix

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Reid <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I cannot understand how this is even being debated at this time. All major physician and patient organizations (the EXPERTS) state it will harm the health care of American citizens.

Please go back to the drawing board and come up with something in the light of day that works for US!

Linda Reid

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jill McCourt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the committee:

Please do not vote on this bill. We do not yet know the full financial impact and it would hurt the many Americans who have pre-existing conditions. When I was in graduate school, and then working as an adjunct professor, I struggled to afford even basic health insurance as a healthy young woman. When I needed birth control, I had to seek out clinics and other options for low-income women - as an educated adult! With a PhD! And insurance!! - because birth control wasn't covered. No preventative care was covered. I was willing to take the risk then but I do not wish to take that risk now. I am fortunate enough to have employer-sponsored health insurance now, but I have not forgotten the fear of the past. Please do not pass a bill that would harm the poorest and sickest of our citizens.

Thank you,  
Dr. Jill McCourt

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rabi Ade <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Inhumain

The process of block granting Medicaid is inhuman for home-bound disabled and their caregivers who are 100% reliant on the Homecare services provided by Medicaid, a government program that I happily contribute my tax payer dollars to. Please do your job and vote to repeal this incideous bill, written on the backs of the most volunerable population.

Regards,  
Maryam Ade

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Senate Finance Committee members:

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill. Allow the bipartisan effort in the Senate HELP Committee to continue to address the issues that exist in the current law. 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. This is the view of every major medical provider organization.

Thank you for your attention to my view and those of so many actively involved in providing health care services.

Celesta Jurkovich Chevy Chase, MD [REDACTED]



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marcia Goldberg <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** stop Trumpcare

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family story involves people who have disabilities such as autism, as well pre-existing conditions. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you.

Marcia Goldberg  
New, York, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeremy Brautman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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 condition that I didn't choose, but which precluded me from being eligible for individual health coverage prior to the ACA. The ACA makes healthcare fair, so that insurance companies can't arbitrarily decide who is worthy of coverage and who isn't. I am one of the lucky ones who gets healthcare through my employer, but I worry about my coverage if I were to ever lose my job. I also worry about my fellow Americans who are guilty of nothing except being born with conditions that insurers don't want to cover.

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

Thank you,  
Jeremy Brautman  
[REDACTED]  
Oakland, CA [REDACTED]

of insurance, or faced medical bills of \$40,000 plus for birthing a baby. As news of the continual threats to the ACA with catastrophic replacement bills, I stay up at night with fear, praying that this child I am carrying, our first child, is born healthy, and that I will not need a C-Section - for fear that both myself and my child will be denied healthcare under the Republican reforms.

I can tell you that bankruptcy has sharply declined in the United States since the ACA went into effect. The majority of American families seek bankruptcy as the result of medical expenses and unexpected illness. Is the America the Republicans want to go back to?

I can tell you all of these things - but to date, the well-being of the American people does not seem to be of much concern to the Republican party. My family has been lifelong Republicans, but today there is little reason to support the party that seems to offer no support or concern for their constituents.

Sincerely,

Grace Raso

cell: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Grace Raso <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family relies on accessing affordable and quality healthcare through the ACA. I am currently nine months pregnant - I thought the threat of losing our affordable healthcare was finally ended earlier this summer, but the threat has reared its head again, in a decidedly worse state with the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am due in ten days, as if there are not enough things to be concerned with during a pregnancy, we have had this looming threat over us my entire pregnancy - will we be able to afford healthcare for our family? God forbid the baby is born with a serious health issue, will we be able to afford any necessary life-saving procedures? 80% of Americans disapprove of this and each one of the GOP's attempts to repeal and replace the ACA. The American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the BlueCross BlueShield Association have condemned this bill - for whom then are you drafting this bill?

As my husband often says - it is much easier to destroy something than create it. As Paul Ryan has said himself - it's very easy to be a party of no. I implore the Senate to seek a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Here are the many ways my family has benefited from the ACA:

I can tell you about my father being laid off from a job he held for 36 years, providing for our family financially and with health benefits for all my life. I can tell you that my mother and youngest sister then lost their health coverage when my father lost that job. I can tell you that my mother herself held a full time job that did not offer healthcare benefits. My mother and sister were facing no healthcare options, but miraculously the year this happened to my father was the year the ACA was passed, and my mother and youngest sister were able to afford, not just access, healthcare through the ACA. My father was saved from this - he was old enough to receive Medicare. The only thing we can thank his terminal cancer for was that it waited until he aged into Medicare to present itself. If it had come any earlier - we would have faced the choice to deny him healthcare and any hope of recovery, or bankrupt our family seeking the proper healthcare. This is the United States of America - in what way does that seem to be the logical and righteous choice for a hardworking American family?

I can tell you about how my father in law, a small business owner with a heart condition, was denied health insurance due to this pre-existing condition, and encountered a \$50,000 medical bill for life-saving heart surgery. I can tell you that with the passage of the ACA / Obamacare, for the first time in years, he was able to not only enroll in healthcare, but was able to afford the healthcare by not being discriminated against for a heart condition he has had since birth. He is a healthy, fit man otherwise, trying his hardest to remain so, but being born with a heart condition, you are not given a choice.

I can tell you about my family - my husband and I both small business owners who have always purchased our own healthcare. With the ACA, finally maternity care is included - when I called my health insurance company to ask them about the maternity coverage, it was with great delight to hear "with Obamacare, you are automatically covered." Before the ACA, I had several friends who were denied maternity coverage, kicked off

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel Long <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop Trump care!!!

I am vehemently opposed to the repeal and replace reform of health Care.

Please stand by the people who need protection from equality.

Why is not every citizen in America receiving the same Health Care as White House employees?

Universal health Care for all - as is done in the more human countries of the world.

Sincerely,  
Long family  
CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robert Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement on Graham-Cassidy bill

Healthcare is 1/6th of the US economy. One sixth! The Graham-Cassidy bill is not being subject to general order and is not being given proper and thoughtful debate on such a major issue. Please, do your jobs for the people and do not pass this bill. Republicans had eight years (!) to come up with a thoughtful and reasonable alternative to the ACH. I urge all members of Congress to do the right thing by the people and do not pass Graham-Cassidy. Come up with a reasoned, well debated, bi-partisan bill for health care!

Sincerely,

Robert Smith  
Virginia Beach, VA

Bob Smith  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mrs. Scnard <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT pass Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

Please do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill in any form. The ACA has been a godsend to my family. Prior to the ACA, I was spending 40% of our household income on insurance premiums, co-pays and deductibles. My husband, daughter and I all had pre-existing conditions so could not get a standard insurance policy. I had to run up my credit card debt in order to financially survive.

Thanks to the ACA and assistance through the ATPC from the federal government, I no longer worry how to stay afloat financially. The Graham-Cassidy bill will put us back into a financially untenable position, assuming that we can even get an insurance policy due to pre-existing conditions.

The ACA is not perfect, so I urge you to continue the bipartisan hearings and work being done in the HELP committee. Please do not be the cause of suffering of millions of Americans. Consider the health and welfare of all Americans, not just the few who contribute to your campaigns.

Regards,

Diane Leeds

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robert Kendzie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

I am vehemently opposed to this latest attempt to devolve the responsibility for adequate care to the states. Doing so will create an unequal and unnecessarily tangled patchwork of overlapping legal mandates that will make providing care more expensive for insurers, who will then pass the expenses on to the consumer in the form of higher premiums. The states also have a poor track record of insuring patients' rights and preventing predatory practices by insurers.

-Rob Kendzie  
Fredericksburg, VA  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** IAN MCADAMS <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: 2pm 9/25/17 meeting of the Senate finance committee;

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham/Cassidy act. It is unconscionable to me that our elected officials would even think of killing off the ACA, which has covered so many more Americans and decreased the trajectory of medical costs and imposing this new law which will upend the insurance and medical fields, and throw so many citizens off health insurance. From what I've read, not one industry involved in the medical field is in favor of this law.

What we need is a thoughtful, bipartisan discussion of how to improve the ACA and how to finance it so that as many Americans as possible can have basic, affordable health care.

thank you for your attention to this letter in for your responsiveness to your fellow Americans.

IAN MCADAMS

phone [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jen McKenzie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

I am asking you to please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. This proposal is disgusting in its blatant disregard for the majority of Americans and their health and welfare. I like to think that our government care for the people it serves, but should this bill pass, it will be just further evidence that that is not the case.

Please, vote no, and protect the people you've pledged to serve.

Sincerely,

Jennifer McKenzie  
High Ridge, Missouri

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sarah kelly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham Cassidy

Hello

I am a parent by domestic adoption. I met my daughter, Angela, when she was four days old. In her first four days of life she had life saving surgery on her intestines. She spent the next week in the NICU healing and getting stronger. My husband and I spent that week snuggling her and getting to know our daughter.

By the time I became Angela's mom, she already had a pre-existing condition and had received hundreds of thousands of dollars in life saving medical care.

It is incomprehensible that a baby who was born with a pre-existing condition might have her health care options diminished. Angela did not choose to need surgery on her intestines. Her birthmother did not do anything wrong during her pregnancy. My husband and I did not plan on parenting a baby who needed surgery at 24 hours old. And yet, here we are - in a position where this bill could remove Angela's future access to affordable quality care.

Today Angela is almost two years old and has no lasting impact from her surgery. I hope that this bill does not pass. This bill and bills like it would have more of an impact on Angela's life than her intestinal birth defect.

Thank you for listening to a concerned mother,  
Sarah Kelly  
New Jersey - [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jaime Weisberg <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Good morning,

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I am a mother of 2 kids and quality healthcare has allowed me to give birth and care for them without going broke! As I understand it, under some iterations, simply giving birth puts me in the category of having a pre-existing condition. Maternity and preventive care for children are essential to any healthcare bill, as is requiring equal coverage for people with preexisting conditions. I have dear friends with diabetes, sickle cell disease, severe allergies, and other health conditions that put them in that category and need affordable healthcare in order to survive.

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,

Jaime Weisberg

[REDACTED]  
Jackson Heights, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Packard <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill.

Hello,

My family and the people I love all 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,  
Lisa Packard

Brooklyn, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rebecca Minor <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** affordable health care

Two of my adult children are raising families that rely on quality affordable health care. My 40 year old daughter raising two children, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer last year. With this lifelong health issue, she needs ongoing monitoring and medicine to replace the thyroid that was removed. My 36 year old son is a small business owner raising two children. He relies on affordable health care.

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

Sincerely,  
Becky Minor

Scottsville  
Virginia

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lora Monroe [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 12:48 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.

Lora Monroe  
Southwick MA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jackie Chovanes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 12:47 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.

Jacquelyn Chovanes  
Macungie, PA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kerry Travers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT REPEAL the ACA

My daughter and her family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The problem is that my daughter's 37 year old husband has been diagnosed with epilepsy and would have a very hard time getting affordable insurance for his family of 5 if there were no provisions for pre-existing conditions. In addition, the proposed caps for lifetime insurance payouts could make their very survival as a young productive American Family exceedingly difficult. We need to support families not put up hurdles for them. They have had insurance through the ACA these past few years which has helped them to be productive American citizens . PLEASE DO NOT repeal the ACA and leave hundreds of thousands of families without reasonable priced and decent health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kerry Travers

Chelan Washington [REDACTED]