

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** katherine morrison [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment for the record

I completely oppose the Graham- Cassidy bill. The ACA must be refined, not repealed. Graham-Cassidy is a hastily constructed, unanalyzed, purely political bill (see Grassley) without consideration of the needs of real Americans.

Katherine Morrison

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Robert Biedron, Deborah Blanton, & Daniel Biedron [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Comment

Dear Senators,

I feel I must comment on the proposed health care bills, past, present, and future.

I am a middle class woman with health issues that put me in the pre-existing conditions category. In addition, I am trying to plan when I will retire, which puts me in the category of someone who is concerned about the availability of health care now and in the future. Perhaps I should not say "availability of health care." What I really mean is "the availability of AFFORDABLE health care."

Right now I am in the fortunate position of being covered by my husband's employee health insurance. That will end when he retires, as best I can understand from the information I have received. So then the question becomes, will I be able to afford health insurance as someone with pre-existing conditions? And if I have to work to insure, and can manage the cost until I'm eligible for Medicare, will that program still be available to me, though I have paid for it since I was a teenager? Will I have to work the rest of my life to provide health insurance for myself?

Do you intend to do that yourself? I realize many of you work long past the retirement age of people whose bodies are worn by the stress of labor, but most people endure physical and emotional stress that ages them and makes it very difficult to work into their 80s and 90s.

It is easy for you, being comfortably wealthy and federally insured, to forget that there are those whose very lives depend on good AND affordable health insurance to be able to pay for our nation's good, but EXPENSIVE, health care.

You are concerned, as best I can determine, with:

- Not forcing people to have health insurance
- Not paying to help poor people with paying for health insurance
- And not requiring health insurance companies to do right by people

I can remember a time when I was not concerned with health insurance, when I was young, healthy, and poor. I ended up in a university hospital with an inexplicable hearing loss. Thank goodness it was a teaching hospital and my condition was rare enough that I ended up not being charged, but I KNOW that someone paid for it - probably the insured patients. It was a kinder and gentler time.

Youth and good health are no guarantees in regard to the lack of need for health care. No one is guaranteed from one moment to the next that they will remain healthy. It is, however, hard to convince the young and the poor that they need health insurance. In my opinion it is up to YOU to set up circumstances that will make health care the order of business for the young and poor. If they are NOT insured, then I and my fellow middle class members end up paying for their care through increased insurance costs on OUR part. It seems that some Congressional Representatives think emergency rooms take care of sick poor people at no cost, but that is not true. The hospitals charge more to others to care for the poor.

Poor people, with all the demands on their limited funds, can't choose between food and shelter on the one hand and health insurance on the other. It shows your lack of understanding of the majority of Americans that you cannot see this. I suggest that you do a creative experiment and using even the MEDIAN income for families demographically similar to yours, then factor in the various costs of living, including transportation, and see where health insurance comes into the budget. You must provide some solution that makes insurance affordable for the poor, or you will be purposely behaving immorally.

Finally, I find it hard to believe that the insurance companies are under financial stress. I just looked up Blue Cross Blue Shield of Virginia, and in 2016 they had a profit of \$2.5 billion dollars. Here's the link: [http://media.corporate-ir.net/media\\_files/IROL/13/130104/2016AR/index.html](http://media.corporate-ir.net/media_files/IROL/13/130104/2016AR/index.html). When you put the insurance companies, who seem to be doing quite fine, before your constituents and other Americans, you are not fulfilling your job as Senators of the United States of America.

I have not been selected to speak for others, but here's what I want:

- I want health insurance/health care that is affordable to people at all ages and all stages of their lives.
- I want health care that does not require a lot of extra effort on my part (in other words, customer friendly care) because I work and I don't have time to fool with insurance companies and, frankly, their nonsense.
- I want the insurance companies to be required to limit their administrative costs so that MOST of the extraordinary amount of money our family pays for insurance annually will be used for covering health care for us and others. I'm not at all fond of paying exorbitant salaries to insurance executives.

Most of all, what I DEMAND is that you do your job and take care of the American people. I'm tired of the extreme partisanship and the determination to do away with anything that has anything to do with former President Obama.

Frankly, grow up, do your job, help us. Is that too much to ask?

Sincerely,

Deborah L Blanton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ed [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:41 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.

Ed Levering  
Petersburg NJ

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** bethutton sisna.com [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday Sept. 25 at 2 pm ET  
**Attachments:** Ltr to Senate Finance Comm Sept 24 2017.docx

Attached is my letter of comment for the  
**Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday Sept. 25 at 2 pm ET**

Thank you for including this in the hearing record.

Beth Utton

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dean Laabs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

The Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the ACA will do nothing to stem steep increases in the cost of health insurance for those who will be able to afford it. Do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Sincerely,

Dean Laabs

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Weigel, Michelle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no

Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill tomorrow morning. On behalf of the millions living with a pre-existing coverage, this bill does not guarantee that we will have coverage. We deserve coverage.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Weigel  
Sent from my iPhone

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JDRF, [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Pamela B Elders [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I am writing to oppose the passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill for all the reasons citing below:

1. Lack of full CBO analysis.
2. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.
3. Block grants to states which would have the effect of creating balkanized health care system in the UNITED states.
4. Ability of states to waive any of the Essential Health Benefits.
5. Inefficiency of a plan where all 50 states must create their own infrastructure to administer health care.
6. Medicaid cuts.
7. Cost-shifting to states, especially those that expanded Medicaid.
8. Elimination of the mandate which surely will result in pricing seniors and those with pre-existing conditions out of the health care market.
9. States could refuse to provide payment assistance for low-income families.
10. It's cruel.

Sincerely,

Pam Elders  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** J S. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to reject the Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan bill that maintains the parts of the ACA that are helping the citizens and work on fixing the items that are hurting them further.

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.

J. Silva  
Los Altos, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rita Rubin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Plea from a mother of an autistic daughter

As the mother of an adult daughter with autism I am begging you not to pass the Graham Cassidy bill. Since autism would be a pre-existing condition private insurers would not have to provide coverage for her. For people like my daughter, the cancellation or gross reduction in Medicaid would not only affect medical care, but would also affect Supported Living and Independent Living Services, Day Programs, In Home Support services, and transportation. By keeping our adult children out of institutions we are saving the State and Federal governments much money. I am afraid legislators don't realize how much money we pay out of pocket even having insurance. We just agreed to have our daughter see a therapist for \$225 an hour to help with her head banging, biting, and yelling, since nothing else we have tried has worked. Please consider the real impact of the vote you will be casting.

Thank you,  
Rita Rubin

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Katie Michels [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I am writing in support of the Affordable Care Act, and in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am someone who has always had and maintained health insurance. I am also a type 1 diabetic, and before Obamacare could not get health insurance on the open market because of this pre-existing condition.

I would like to be financially responsible, and take care of my health now in order to prevent catastrophic health issues (and costs) later. Without insurance, 1 month of insulin costs me over \$1,000. With insurance, it is less than \$200. Good health insurance, which doesn't discriminate based on health status, makes that possible for me and the 130 million Americans with pre-existing health conditions to do the right thing and pay into the system. All people should have the right to purchase health insurance. Because of Obamacare, I can do that and not be penalized for my health status. Please, protect the right of American citizens to take care of their bodies by allowing all Americans to have access to good health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Katie Michels

Montpelier, VT

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Luna Jewels [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I'm writing this email to implore you reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill, if passed, will decimate the American landscape because if 20-30 million Americans no longer qualify nor can afford healthcare there will be suffering and death because of it. People that have to choose between medical care vs putting food on the table don't have left over money to spend on anything else. No new clothes, no new cars, no new electronics. That means eventually lost jobs, lost businesses, which means lost tax revenue. I don't need to tell you what that means.

There isn't a single medical organization that is for Graham-Cassidy. Doctors, nurses and medical professionals are against it. Insurance companies are against it. The head of medicaid is against it. Please, if you have even a shadow of a doubt listen to that doubt and reject this viscous and harmful bill.

Thank you, Julia Baker

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cynthia Stern [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassady

No no no!!! Fix the problems of ACA bipartisan-ly, DO NOT repeal it in favor of punitive measures in the GOP mantra & obsession of "states' rights."

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** T Opatrny [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** healthcare

The healthcare industry should not be a "for profit" business. Everyone deserves healthcare and it is immoral to say otherwise. This is not one of those cases where we should just see what happens with a free market. We know exactly what will happen. A few people will make a lot of money but a lot more will suffer and possibly die because they are denied access to affordable care.

My family uses the ACA for our healthcare. Work together to fix it instead of passing this new health bill, which solves none of the problems that the ACA has and actually only makes the healthcare system worse. This new bill does not protect pre-existing conditions, one of the more important aspects of the ACA. My family depends on this and to remove it would be devastating to us. We depend on Congress to protect us and this new bill tells us that you don't care about average Americans.

When it comes to the next election, we will remember what you do here.

Thank you,  
Tova Opatrny  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stacey Sherr Michelin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 8:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I am a woman. Equality is a right provided under our Constitution. Why then are women to pay more for healthcare under Graham-Cassidy? Why is pregnancy a pre-existing condition? If the GOP is so hellbent on being "pro-life" why does it not care for life after birth? We all deserve medical care.

Stacey Sherr Michelin  
Glencoe, Illinois

Please excuse typos- Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** maria.similton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GC HC Bill

Title of Hearing: Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing

Date of Hearing: September 25, 2017

My name: Maria Similton

My Address: [REDACTED]

Thank you for accepting and reviewing comments on the proposed Graham CASSIDY Healthcare Bill. It is egregious that the Republicans are pushing a detrimental healthcare bill without true hearings and a full CBO score that would detail the number of people that would lose healthcare, the increases in premiums, the true cost of this Bill, and the total elimination of funding after 2026.

Additionally, the lies regarding the real elimination of preexisting conditions by Republicans is unacceptable. The obvious bribery of Senators to support this bill against the best interests of thier Constituents is abhorrent. Please protect Americans by forcing regular order on such an important critical need for the country.

Thank you.

Maria Similton  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sharyn Campbell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Finance Committee statement for the record

Congress needs to focus on repair, not repeal, of the ACA. As a trained economist, I believe it will be much better for the economy. The labor force will be more flexible if individuals and families don't have to consider health care as a primary driver for where they work and live. I am tired of the U.S. thinking it has everything figured out. The reality is, other countries have universal coverage and in many cases, better costs, than we experience in the U.S. What can we learn from others? This is not an area where the U.S. is a world leader. Who's #BetterThanTheUS when it comes to universal health care for its citizens?

Just stop and think what life would be like for the elderly and their family members if Medicare did not exist. I hope you can imagine how ugly it would be. Well, that's what too many in this country are suffering, at young ages. All human beings matter and deserve health coverage. All Members of Congress and their families are covered with a very beneficial plan; how hypocritical of you to attempt to deny that same level of coverage to your fellow citizens.

I want bipartisan solution to this. The citizens of America have elected a bipartisan Congress, not a Republican Congress. All of Congress represents all of America, and you will have the best solution if you work together on repairs to the ACA. By ignoring the Democratic perspective, you are essentially taking an easy path. Collaboration and compromise require thinking, listening, responding, and negotiating - that's right, real work. This is what you are being paid to do - not to shut out the "other side". The rest of us don't get to live our lives working with only those with whom we agree; the rest of us have to collaborate and compromise every day at work and at home. So should you. It's everything John McCain said - we want to see Congress function with transparency and bipartisanship. You were elected to be leaders of this nation; I'll start using that term in reference to you once I see you behave like leaders. This is your chance. History will judge you, and history will get it right, even if you don't.

Sharyn Campbell  
Henrico, VA, USA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** yurkofsky [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Denise Yurkofsky  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My family relies on affordable health care. I am also an elder law attorney and represent many people who are disabled or elderly and count on affordable health care. Their lives were significantly improved as a result of the Affordable Care Act and its protections for people with pre-existing conditions (who were finally able to work and live with dignity without losing their health insurance) and the prohibitions against lifetime caps helped my clients with severe illnesses avoid bankruptcy.

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. I recommend that you start with making sure the insurance markets remain strong by keeping the subsidies intact.

Sincerely,

Denise Yurkofsky  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pat Goldsmith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Why I Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

I had breast cancer over 10 years ago. I'm very fortunate to be a survivor, and I'm also fortunate that I had good insurance that covered the vast majority of my expenses. That will not be true for me, as someone with a "pre-existing condition," under this bill. Insurance companies will be able to discriminate against me and millions of people who have been ill. I agree with Senator McCain that the only way forward must be bipartisan. Please work to improve the Affordable Care Act through bipartisan cooperation, instead of passing this destructive and cruel legislation.

Respectfully,  
Patricia Goldsmith  
Livingston, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stephanie Ziemann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

Please don't let my daughter's health be threatened by allowing her health coverage to be compromised. She has every right to live as healthy as possible, just like the rest of us; regardless of how rich her father and I are or are not.

Thank you,  
Stephanie Ziemann  
Mother of Ada-Lily, age 7

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Angela Hodge <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:14 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 have three small children and I fear my pregnancies and births would be considered a pre-existing condition under this plan. My elderly mother lives on a fixed income and may need Medicaid coverage soon. I fear that her safety net would vanish under this plan. I have friends with a baby who was born with a life threatening health issue and needed extended time in the NICU. I fear this baby's issues at birth would be considered a pre-existing condition under this plan and she would never be able to afford health care and receive further essential care. I could go on and on -- there are so many people in my life who would be effected negatively by this bill. This bill is not humane. To quote a recent article in the Atlantic, this bill is "antithetical to insurance."

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do not let down the American people. Do not let down my family, my children, my elderly mother, my friend's beautiful baby. We deserve medical care, and we deserve care we can afford.

Sincerely,  
Angela Hodge  
Vashon, Washington

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Peter Casanave [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The ACA saved my twins

I have three daughters, all of whom have benefited from the ACA. However, one daughter was dramatically saved by the ACA. Another daughter was saved by the ACA but in a less dramatic way. Also, my late father-in-law passed at nearly 101 was using Medicaid in a way that saved taxpayer money! Below is the story of

**My daughter Alex was directly saved by the ACA.** She had been covered by my wife's health insurance until she graduated from college. We were much relieved that the ACA allowed her to go back onto my wife's plan using the "younger than 26" provision. She was the picture of health, a former dancer and runner, a perfect candidate for the opting out of health care scenario. She suddenly weakened, and was collapsing. In the Emergency Room she was diagnosed as having a rare cancer, Chordoma, that was the shape of a fat sausage from the back of her nose traveling across the base of her skull and pressing against her brain stem. The brain stem pressure was causing her symptoms and was threatening her life. Eight days after the diagnosis she had her first craniotomy (brain surgery), accessing the tumor through the soft tissue behind her nose. This required not only a neurosurgeon but a specialty Nose and Throat surgeon to make the initial opening and to close and care for it after surgery. A second craniotomy was more traditional and happened as soon as it was safe to do so four months later; the purpose was to remove tumor tissue that was not accessible for the first approach. Because some tumor was unable to be removed even with these two surgeries, she required special radiation treatment daily over eight weeks using protons emitted from a cyclotron (an atom smasher) that was only available at a facility several states away. She recovered fully though the chance of recurrence continues; it is an unusual cancer in that recurrence does not diminish over time -- statistically it increases. As a result she must undergo special MRI's to be interpreted by the radiologist who supervised her proton treatment. She is now working as a Registered Nurse using the degree she acquired after recovery. However, her pre-existing condition puts her at risk of not being covered or only being covered at great expense.

Her situation exposes a great fault of the ACA, one that I would like to see improved. In spite of being insured she ended up with what I would estimate was over a million dollars in debt. The surgeons for the two brain surgeries, the oncologist for the proton treatment, and the two hospitals were all "out of network." It is a crap shoot as to which disease will be covered by the necessary specialists or facilities. None of the proposed bills from the current congress address this grave fault.

I will write separately about my other two daughters and my father in law.

--  
Peter Albert Casanave  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** S. J. Yates [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments about Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

The Graham-Cassidy bill opens the door to the sorts of junk health insurance we had before Obamacare. Annual caps, Lifetime caps, sky-high rates for pre-existing conditions that make currently ill people uninsurable -- the Graham-Cassidy bill would bring that all back. Please don't pass this horrible bill. Instead, please work with Democrats to come up with bipartisan fixes to Obamacare.

Long after Donald Trump is gone, Americans will have to live with the consequences of the decisions you are making. Please make wise decisions.

Sincerely,

S.J. Yates



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richard Berman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is an outrageous piece of mean-spirited legislation that does not at all address the health care of the American people. Please do it right. Sit down with Democrats and repair the ACA.

Richard Berman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Luna Jewels [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Can you imagine finding out that your child has cancer and it will cost an extra \$16,000 on top of the premiums you already pay to treat them and you only make \$30,000 a year? And that is just their medical care, that's not including your own or anyone else in your family. That is just one awful scenario if this unbelievably cruel, malicious and thoughtless bill passes. Please don't let this become normal. Life is hard enough when you're sick and/or poor, please don't make it even harder just to make it easier for the healthy and/or wealthy.

J. V. Black

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Feddersens <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Committee Members,

I have been a Registered Nurse for over 40 years. The Graham-Cassidy bill can not legitimately be called a health care bill. The consequences will be terrible for so many US citizens. Do not let this happen to us.

Virginia Printz-Feddersen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** raymond wojtkowiak [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because  
....  
this bill is not going to serve the public's healthcare needs better than ObamaCare which, while needing adjustments, must be built upon. We finally have the vehicle, make it right. My kids, my grandkids, my great grandkids...all depending on you to finally do your job for them instead generating additional tax break revenues for your wealthy supporters. Quite a few of my friends and neighbors are watching this closely. This is the most important vote of all time. We have to stop the Madness!!!! Your action on this issue will definitely determine where I spend my vote next election.

raymond wojtkowiak

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stacie Buechner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare bill

Stop worrying about a chit in your "won" column and do what is "right" for the american people. DO NOT PASS THIS BILL -- remember that you WORK for the people and not yourself and your record. People need to have the right to medical care without stipulations.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** kathy malone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with is that as a freelancer on a low income such as mine, there is no way I would be able to afford any sort of health insurance for me and my son. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Malone  
Brooklyn, New York

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christine Carter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** affordable care act

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father has been battling cancer and without the help of strong medicaid he would be in financial difficulties right now. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Christine Carter  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Llanes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Concerning the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill

My name is Barbara Llanes. My son/daughter is Nelson Bayona Jr. and attends a progressive program at OCA in Winter Park. OCA stands for Opportunity, Community and Ability and it offers Behavior therapy, recreation programs, adult vocational training, summer and holiday camps as well as after-school programs for individuals with special needs. Its programs are funded predominantly through Florida's CDC+ monies which are Medicaid Waiver monies from the Medicaid program that will be greatly impacted by any block grants, cuts or caps as proposed in the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have worked so hard to support my child so that he can be part of our community and do not want to see that go away or be forced to make a decision about an institutional setting. We respectfully request that you oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and oppose any cuts or caps to Medicaid, on behalf of my son.

Sincerely,

Barbara Llanes

[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laura Hunt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** opposition to Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill

I am a mother of two (soon-to-be three children) and pediatrician. As a mother, physician and Christian human being, I see nothing positive in this bill and plead that for the sake of my children and children's children, you do not approve this proposed legislation.

While I recognize that The Affordable Care is not without problems and Republicans promised prompt repeal, I believe that the Graham-Cassidy bill will only make problems worse rather than better. It would be better to take the time and bipartisan input needed to improve our complex healthcare system than to pass this bill just so you can tout the "accomplishment" on the campaign trail. This is because the Graham-Cassidy bill will leave many more uninsured (particularly innocent children currently covered by Medicaid), remove protections against charging higher premiums (or refusing coverage) for those who need it most (i.e. those with pre-existing conditions) and the elderly while raising overall premiums. Moreover, by handing over so much financial control of healthcare to the states, chaos, inefficiency and vast disparities in care will ensue. The only ones that I see who might benefit will be businesses and wealthy individuals who will receive tax cuts under this plan, but that is not in keeping with the goal of improving our broken healthcare system.

If this bill is approved in its current form, you can be assured that people will die--young, old, rich, and poor, as well as suffer bankruptcy and other major burdens that will not incline them to support Republicans in their campaigns or at the ballot box.

Sincerely,  
Laura Hunt, MD, FAAP

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tanya Pedersen-Barr [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:10 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.

Tanya Pedersen-Barr  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Liz Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I do NOT support the Graham-Cassidy bill

Please do not pass this bill. It is wrong for America and will harm so many Americans.

Vote no on this bill!

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lisa Fields <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote NO #GrahamCassidy'

My name is Lisa Fields. I live in Asheville NC and not only do I vote but I also work my local polls on election day.

Please vote no for GrahamCassidy.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield made the following warning.

In unprecedented joint letter, the entire American health care system - 1/6 of the economy - rejects Graham-Cassidy.

<https://twitter.com/TopherSpiro/status/911933970421551105>

I also reject Graham-Cassidy.

I believe Sen. John McCain said it best.

I believe we could do better working together, Republicans and Democrats, and have not yet really tried. Nor could I support it without knowing how much it will cost, how it will affect insurance premiums, and how many people will be helped or hurt by it. Without a full CBO score, which won't be available by the end of the month, we won't have reliable answers to any of those questions.

I'm a proud American Citizen who works with special needs people.

I hope you will consider my thoughts regarding GrahamCassidy

Sincerely,

Lisa Fields, MS.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jay Hurst Office [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Citizen Response regarding Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing, September 25, 2017

Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017

EJ Hurst II  
Law Office of EJ Hurst II

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

It is beyond my grasp how the Republican Party will set a campaign promise to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) ahead of any coherent attempt to provide affordable health care to the majority of Americans.

The GOP has spent EIGHT years now foaming at the mouth to “repeal and replace.” And yet in those eight years, an utter failure of leadership has left the GOP with a replacement of . . . nothing. The GOP’s scattershot approach has failed since January because the American people are not stupid. We see you have nothing. We are watching the GOP trying to force through nonsense after nonsense that will harm tens of millions of their neighbors, trying to move fast enough that the facts cannot be found and reported before the vote could be had, all because they spent seven of the last eight years blustering without a real thought about what would work better than the ACA.

Shame on you.

We didn’t fall for your urgency last month, and we are not falling for it this month. Quit playing politics with American lives. Do your bloody jobs. And find bipartisan solutions to the ACA’s problems as we Americans want you to do. Kill the Graham-Cassidy abomination today, as the majority of responsible Americans are telling you to do.

Most sincerely,  
EJ Hurst II, [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rose, Adam James [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Cassidy-Graham Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.

Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.

Rather than stripping health care from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets and fixing the ACA. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elizabeth Bolton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy

I am a veterinarian and have devoted my life to the provision of quality health care for all. My professional oath states "first, do no harm". The Graham-Cassidy bill does harm by failing to protect American citizens with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, and disabilities. Therefore, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Along with the majority of Americans (your constituents!!), I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Liz Bolton, DVM

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristina Callahan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, September 25, 2017

I, my family members, and my friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have Lupus, my sister has lupus: therefore we have a family "marker" for this disease which may affect my nieces, and my great nieces, I want to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kristina Callahan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katherine Murphy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please save the ACA

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I fell off a telephone pole while working. That used to be the reason to deny me coverage. Now that I have had cancer, if I ever lose my coverage, I can't imagine getting affordable healthcare. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,  
Katherine Murphy  
North Hollywood, CA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** roberta keogan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing ,Monday,Sept 25

My family relies on quality,affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham- Cassidy bill. Both of my sons suffer from mental illness. With medicaid they are able to obtain psychiatric care which would not be available to them otherwise. I am sad enough that this has happened to them, but I would be devastated if they were not able to get the help that they need. I am also a nurse and have seen the tragedies that befall families with no access to healthcare. Things which could have been prevented or treated very simply progress to health issues which are life altering, or deadly. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA rather than repealing it.  
Sincerely,

Roberta Keogan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kala Melchiori [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** my mentor's life depends on you

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am urging you to do all you can to stop the Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal bill. My name is Kala Melchiori, and I am an assistant professor at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. Years ago, I was an undergraduate student at Marshall University, in Huntington, WV. While there I had a fantastic mentor - Paige. Paige mentored me in research projects and helped me get into graduate school. Paige is also a force for good in the Huntington community, working with the local community garden, sexual assault prevention and victim advocacy groups, and countless other students who turn to her for guidance.

Paige was diagnosed with and treated for breast cancer a few years ago. After it seemed as though her life with her two daughters was settling down, she lost her husband suddenly due to an aneurysm. She is now raising her two young daughters on her own, and has learned her cancer is back. She now has stage IV, metastatic breast cancer. The average survival time for women with this diagnosis is 2 years. She will not live to see her children graduate middle school.

She needs to seek every treatment available to her to extend her life with her children. Passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill would mean an additional \$140,000 cost to her treatment. She makes a modest income at a state institution in an impoverished state. She is a single parent. Passage of this bill would cost months or years of her life. It would rob her children of their mother even sooner than they ever imagined. Additionally, it would mean her children - who have a mom who had breast cancer and a dad with an aneurysm, both at an early age - would have an almost impossible time finding affordable, quality health insurance.

Please, please, please do the right thing. Oppose Graham-Cassidy. Help my mentor and friend Paige love her daughters for as long as she possibly can.

Thank you,

Kala Melchiori

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Meagan Kinney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

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 millions to lose their health coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors, and people with disabilities or preexisting conditions.

Warmly,  
Meagan Kinney  
Mt Pleasant Tx

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kate Ryan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE DON'T KILL ME

I am 33 years old. I live in MA, where 80% of our Medicaid/care funding comes from the federal government. And I am begging you with all of my heart to please not let me die.

I have Autism spectrum disorder, non verbal learning disability, chronic debilitating depression, generalized anxiety disorder, OCD, PTSD and chronic self harm. I also have a bad back I take medications for as well as my 4 psychiatric medications. My psychiatrist and therapist are paid from Medicaid. I am on SSDI because I am unable to work due to my disabilities. I try very hard but I do not interview well. And work environments are hard for me.

I do not want to die. But I need my medications and doctors to live. The graham Cassidy bill would take away my access to crucial medical services. I can and do contribute to society. I volunteer at church and in my town. I write a Blog. I have friends and a life. I have two adorable nephews and I do not want to miss seeing them grow up.

Please do not pass this bill. Please let me live. Please let my friends live also. We have lives worth living. We have hearts full of love. We work as hard as we can.

I don't know what else to say. If you are a compassionate person with any soul at all you will please please please not pass this bill.

Sincerely  
Kate Ryan

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharlee DiMenichi <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I have a pre-existing condition and could be denied health insurance because of it. I am also concerned because many of my neighbors rely on Medicaid and I don't want their coverage limited or eliminated.

Please do not let this bill become law.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sharlee DiMenichi

Sharlee DiMenichi

18102  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Linda Maldonado [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My ACA story

My granddaughter was born on Obamacare on Nov 21, 2016.

Her mother is my son's girlfriend. She is 28 years old. She is a full-time student. **She works part-time and earns too much to qualify for Medicaid.** Because she works part-time she is not entitled to employer sponsored health insurance.

She purchased a plan through Healthcare.gov several years ago. After a \$181/month subsidy, her monthly premium is \$250. Annual deductible is \$500. She paid \$700 for prenatal care and delivery. Her pregnancy was unplanned. She was on birth control pills when she conceived, therefore she could have easily justified not purchasing maternity coverage.

If Healthcare.gov was not there and if essential health benefits were not covered, I doubt that she would have purchased insurance.

I do not know what she would have done about her pregnancy if she did not have insurance. She would have either had to quit her job so that she would be eligible for Medicaid, drop out of school and try to find a job that provided insurance or terminate the pregnancy.

Thanks to the ACA, I have a beautiful healthy granddaughter.

I also worked in Neonatal ICU, so I'm somewhat aware of what can go wrong with infants. The following commentary is based on my experience. It is narrowly based on maternity coverage:

A Los Angeles Times study shows that if maternity care were not included as an EHB, purchasing it a la carte would raise premiums 24-75%. The Los Angeles Times did not study pediatrics, which I assume is much more expensive. A healthy pregnancy and delivery costs about \$15,000. However, many have complications, the most common is maternal Group B strep and hyperbilirubinemia. Most of these require a hospital stay of 3 days.

Maternal hypertension is the most common cause of premature delivery. Often those moms are hospitalized to prevent delivery.

Most of us know someone who has had a baby in the Neonatal ICU. I read that having baby on a ventilator in NICU for several days will result in an average medical bill of \$100,000. However, there are cases where the infant has further complications from prematurity such as brain bleeds and necrotizing enterocolitis. These conditions will result in surgeries and skyrocketing medical bills.

There is also a common complication of late delivery called meconium aspiration. This can be as serious as premature delivery. Aspiration causes a chemical pneumonia. Unlike other common chemical pneumonias, meconium is an acidic tar-like substance that adheres to the lungs. Therefore it can have serious consequences. Sometimes infants need to be placed on special cardiac bypass equipment to completely allow the lungs to heal.

The above are common examples of complications seen in newborns. One can see how costs can rapidly accrue for conditions that are fairly common.

NICU is covered under the mother's maternity plan.

This does not even begin to cover pediatrics, which would be covered by another policy.

Los Angeles Times study: <http://www.latimes.com/business/hiltzik/la-fi-hiltzik-essential-health-benefits-20170322-story.html>



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

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**From:** Steven Wagner [REDACTED]@ubcapohio.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Portman, Casework (Portman)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Please consider this as testimony submitted to the committee -

All U.S. Senators should abandon the Graham-Cassidy bill and return to the bipartisan approach led by Senators Alexander and Murray. The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for the health of this Nation. You don't have to search to find a health care expert that will tell you Graham-Cassidy would be devastating to millions of people. The American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the American Health Insurance Plans, the American Cancer Society and scores of consumer groups are all urging the Senate to kill the bill.

Some Senators may say that they are waiting for more information but ignore the fact that the Congressional Budget Office will not have time to provide analysis on coverage losses or premium increases. That should be critical information for a health care bill. The Senate should never vote on health care legislation that does not have the full analysis of the bipartisan CBO. Legislation impacting so many should receive full, considered deliberation that includes all obtainable information before there is a vote.

Nevertheless, there is already a substantial amount of information about Graham-Cassidy and it all shows that many will be significantly harmed. While there are some temporary winners in the redistribution of funds, all people lose as the expansion funds disappear and Medicaid caps shrink coverage and benefits for older adults, children and those with disabilities. Analyses available now show over 30 Million people will lose coverage by 2027. Everyone loses, as the protections for those with pre-existing conditions are eroded. Older adults will be particularly hard hit, as insurance companies are once again able to charge premiums five times that of a younger adult.

Graham-Cassidy is a flawed and harmful piece of legislation that must be abandoned so that the Senate can return to important matters that provide care. The Senate should return to bipartisan discussions that fund the cost sharing reductions and reinsurance. The Senate needs to pass CHIP funding. The Senate needs to extend support for the Community Health Center Fund.

Do what is good for the people. Protect our care. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Steve Wagner

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** anne holloway [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose GOP healthcare bill

Absolutely cowardly and dastardly to vote in favor of the GOP healthcare abomination. Vote NO. Thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mirele Goldsmith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

Dear Senators,

I am a freelancer so I rely on purchasing quality, affordable health insurance through the exchange.

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because I may lose the ability to purchase coverage, and because millions of other people who need health care will lose access to it.

Sick, indebted people, cannot build a strong country. We need to build on the progress made with the ACA, not throw it away.

I would like to see a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA, not to repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Mirele Goldsmith  
Bethesda, MD

Sent from Mirele's smartphone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Rosenberg-Wohl [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on access to excellent, affordable healthcare and therefore strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Rosenberg-Wohl  
San Francisco, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Damodaran, Arun [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*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.*

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leslie Farrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My statement regarding Cassidy-Graham proposal  
**Attachments:** GrahamCassidyVote.docx

Please accept my statement regarding the Cassidy-Graham proposal.

Thank you.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Diane Fox [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill; thoughts on health care & current political process

Dear Members of Congress:

It seems as if our country is in a nightmare that we can't escape as another horrific health care bill is under consideration. I urge all Senators to thoroughly consider the implications of the Graham-Cassidy bill and vote NO.

I am one of the many American citizens who for most of my life has trusted that our government officials had the best interests of our country and its citizens at heart. I, personally, participated in local government as a member of the board of trustees for public libraries (3) and on a regional library board in the state of IL. I know how many hours I dedicated to preparing for each board meeting so that I was well informed before I voted on any issue brought before the board. I am very disheartened that the Republican party seems to be operating from a "group think" mind set without any regard to the best interests of the American people, their health care, or the needs of the health care providers. It appears that not all the Senators have even read the bill thoroughly.

I personally favor the Medicare for All bill now before the Senate. My son is a single parent with 3 children. He has worked for a big box store all his working life and is now in management. Through all that time the health needs of his family were subsidized through the state government because 1) his income put him at poverty level 2) the insurance provided did not adequately meet the needs of his family. As a result I have become more politically engaged in the hopes that Congress will realize that health care is a right and pass legislation to support that view. I want my grandchildren to have the freedom to pursue their dreams without the constant worry over 1) the cost of health care 2) the threat of a claim being denied due to a pre-existing condition and 3) if health care will be available should they choose to live in a rural area.

Honestly, I have more productive uses of my time than constantly responding to another ill-conceived health care bill that is not really about the health care needs of the American people but more about the wishes and profits of big money donors.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

--

Diane Fox  
West Lafayette, IN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nan Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Members of 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. Our country has an overly costly healthcare system. ACA is a step in the right direction. Repealing it will hurt the vulnerable.

Sincerely, Nan Smith

New Marlborough, Mass.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Crowe <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 9:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I am self-employed and rely on affordable health insurance in case of a long illness, disease or injury. I do everything I can to stay healthy and it works - I am in great shape according to my doctor. In the case of illness or injury, without affordable health insurance, I would have to rely on the government to help foot my bill. I want to be independent and not rely on others to help take care of me and my responsibility.

Please work together and find a way to help improve the Affordable Care Act, not to repeal it. It is in all our financial interest for you to do so.

Rhett Crowe

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bill Snyder <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Reform

To Members of The United States Senate -

It is crucial to the American people that our efforts to improve our healthcare system be done with bipartisan support. Our healthcare system is too important to rush something through, especially without having a CBO score since any changes to our existing healthcare system without knowing its impact before voting will likely have devastating consequences to those who need healthcare the most.

Please support the efforts of Senators Alexander and Murray to work in a bipartisan fashion so that the Senate can pass healthcare reform that we can be proud of. As Senator McCain so eloquently stated, the Senate works best when it follows regular order. Please do not rush a bill through the Senate without hearings and a proper analysis, including a CBO score, since no senator will know its true impact on the American people. Also, the focus of healthcare should be on wellness instead of illness.

We put our trust in you. With that in mind, please work with all of your colleagues to pass healthcare reform.

Sincerely,

William Snyder

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dawn Saindon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** graham/cassidy bill

Dear Sirs,

Please do not vote in favor of the Graham/Cassidy bill. No child should lose a parent because they cannot afford healthcare just as no parent should lose a child for that very reason.

The need for healthcare is not something within an individuals control. Please do not let the people of this country down by taking the option of healthcare away for so many!

Sincerely,  
Dawn Saindon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lauren Oznick Muncy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Senators,

Please do not pass the Graham Cassidy bill. I pay \$2,500 per month for insurance for my husband and myself. Without the ACA, I would be denied coverage at any cost. I have a brain tumor. I must have an MRI annually to check its growth. If I had to have it removed, I could not afford brain surgery without health insurance. Thank you.

Lauren Oznick

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ecosutra [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Green energy opportunity

Do you try to design for civilians to begin migrating away from Dark Money by expedition to green conversion plays like algae bio fuel, Otec, micro grids. Co op power purchase agreement for residual community scale energy production. If the solar tariffs come to America to prevent foreign solar from conflicting with the petrol dollar, should we as a collective will, migrate to developing worlds to resist the evil Trump dark money empire?

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cynthia Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Repeal is the wrong idea. Please save the ACA. Americans need this.  
Thank you.

Cynthia Carle

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This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.  
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ann Nason [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy NO!!!

Try putting people before politics for a change. This bill would be disastrous for our country's most vulnerable. PLEASE use common sense and ditch this doodoo.

Ann Nason

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pam Wamhoff <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern,

I am very concerned regarding the irresponsible and reckless legislature that has been brought forward in trying to repeal and replace ObamaCare. Most Americans give more thought and consideration to daily decisions in their lives than has been given to the 3 legislative pieces presented to replace ObamaCare. It is time that the elected officials begin to respect the American political system by understanding in a two party system that they must negotiate and compromise, that is the requirement to insure a strong and great democracy. We expect that in all relationships and I think it is time it is demanded of our elected officials. It is time to pass health care by a bipartisan means, come together and make the current "ObamaCare" better...and subsequently keep working in a bipartisan manner to improve as needed.

Sincerely,

Pam Wamhoff



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tanja Meding [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** re. securing and strengthening the ACA

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

7 years ago I was diagnosed with uterine and ovarian cancer - I had surgery followed by Chemotherapy. Therefore I am now a patient with a preexisting condition.

Thankfully during those trying times, we had very comprehensive health care insurance provided through my husband's job at a university.

Shortly after my treatment ended, my husband's job was terminated - if the ACA had not been in place at that time, including the pre-existing condition mandate, it might have been very hard if not impossible for us to find an insurance to accept me.

I have seen the bills that came in after my surgery and during my chemo therapy - if we had had to cover these expenses out of pocket, we would have been bankrupted.

Taking health care away from millions of people if you repeal and replace the ACA - is just not acceptable. I urge you NOT to repeal, or actively work on dismantling the ACA - but continue and work in a bipartisan way to improve and strengthen the existing ACA for the good of all of us. As you know, a group of Republicans have been advocating this position for some time and have started taking steps in the right direction. Please support their efforts and do not pass a piece of legislation that the majority of the American public as well as all health care institutions and insurance carriers.

I salute Senator McCain as well as Senators Collins and Murkowski who repeatedly have been calling for a bipartisan approach - and for holding hearings, getting a proper CBO score and allowing for amendments before moving any piece of legislation to the floor.

This rushed effort we witness over the past days is not the way to make decisions and rush a bill that effect millions of people and their lives.

Thank you for your attention to this most important issue.

Sincerely,

Tanja Meding

Tanja Meding  
NYC 10044  
[REDACTED]

Please consider the environment before printing this email

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lois Sugar [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA Replace

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

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

Sincerely,

Lois Sugar

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Lori Bartlett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:42 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Please pass this bill and return power to the States. People in Minnesota are suffering high premiums and deductibles. In my place of work, after a portion of the premium is paid for by the employer, a young police officer is paying over \$1,000 per month out of pocket for a high deductible plan to cover his family. Obamacare has caused our premiums and deductibles to shoot through the roof. Please repeal!

Signed,  
Lorraine Bartlett

Sent from my iPhone

**Call Sen. Toomey at (202) 224-4254**

**Click here to email Sen. Toomey**

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

**Call Sen. Casey at (202) 224-6324**

**Click here to email Sen. Casey**

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

**Take action. *Save lives.***

\_\_\_\_\_

PA Breast Cancer Coalition

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record RE: Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Senators Lindsey Graham and Bill Cassidy,

Your healthcare bill is cruel and malicious. It interfered with bipartisan efforts to improve the ACA, and forced American citizens to beg for their lives. Your bill is devastating to our country and will result in thousands of unneeded deaths.

No senator, or any member of Congress, should give this bill serious consideration.

--

- Victoria Cliett

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Arlene Lawrence [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham- Cassidy healthcare bill

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you with regard to the recent proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act proposed by Sen. Graham and Sen. Cassidy. By every measure this is an unacceptable bill.

First, I am very concerned with the ongoing efforts of the GOP to repeal the ACA due to the real hardship it will cause those among us who have so few options and little access to healthcare. The sick, the elderly and those like me with a penchant-existing or chronic health issue will be negatively impacted.

Second, I find real issue with the language of the bill that will allow states to loosen protections for those seeking ongoing care. Monies to Medicare will be drastically reduced, making the cost to seniors and the disabled unacceptably high.

In essence, this proposed bill will not make healthcare more accessible nor bring healthcare to more Americans. In truth, approximately 30 million Americans will lose what healthcare they currently have, and this means people, namely our friends, family and neighbors will suffer and possibly die. The proposed bill is a death sentence.

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy bill. It behooves us to work together to improve the existing law with bipartisan input, with everyone in Congress working together for a viable solution.

Sincere regards,

Arlene Lawrence

"Share our similarities, celebrate our differences"

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sam Hranac [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

This bill must be struck down. Better still, publicly humiliate Graham and Cassidy for ever bringing it up.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** cynthia [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO, to Cassidy-Graham!!!!!!

GCh-

This bill does NOTHING to improve health in the lives of Americans. It is purely a political ploy for Republicans to exert power. The CBO has again shown that many Americans will be denied health care. The majority of Americans do not want "Obamacare" repealed, and it is unbelievable that so many Republicans are tone deaf about this issue.

My vote: show some concern and compassion for Americans....."to promote the general welfare..." not the welfare of the few with lucrative bank accounts.

Cynthia Crawford



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Kathleen Scanlon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:45 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal ACA

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. The ACA allowed me to pursue my career goal of getting my architecture license. Without the affordable health insurance plan available to me on the individual market place I would not have been able to temporarily reduce my working hours in order to become an architect. I would have had to stay in a full-time salaried position just so that I could keep my employer provided health insurance plan. This would have delayed the advancement of my career indefinitely. The seven architecture registration exams required many hours of study. With the confidence that I would be able to obtain health insurance through the individual marketplace I knew that I could make the decision to focus on moving my career forward by completing the exams. That confidence is gone now with the constant instability caused by this administration and congress. I am so very glad that I was able to make that decision before this chaos.

Regards,  
Kathleen Scanlon, RA, NCARB, LEED AP

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Barbara Klipper [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to implore you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

Pushing this bill through without following the normal Senate process of committee hearings with expert testimony, a chance for the other party to add amendments, and the opportunity for rigorous debate, not only prevents the bill from improving, but undermines our democratic and venerable process of government.

Rushing a bill that will impact a sixth of our economy without full CBO scoring is a recipe for long term disaster, to the health and well-being of millions of Americans and politically to those legislators responsible for inflicting this on the American people.

I agree that our healthcare system needs reform, but this is not the way to do it. It is my hope that the Senate will return next year to begin bipartisan discussions and hearings that will result in a healthcare bill that works for all Americans. I think the preponderance of Americans share this hope with me.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Klipper

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christine Marletti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** TrumpCare Legislation

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The Graham/Cassidy legislation cannot guarantee protection for those with pre-existing conditions, it is more expensive and fewer will be covered and is not a viable replacement for the Affordable Care Act.

The Graham/Cassidy repeal has not been properly vetted, nor has it been through the proper procedures to be considered at this time.

Please vote no on this legislation and save American lives.

Thank you

Christine Marletti

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jason Willensky [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Cassidy

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

I am a sole proprietor of a small business, and I purchase insurance on my state's exchange. I am a recent kidney cancer survivor who depends on coverage for pre-existing conditions and follow-up care.

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

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  
Jason Willensky

Jason Willensky  
Instructional Design & Development  
Willensky Group, LLC  
[REDACTED]

Sent from Android mobile

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Chris Foster [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy alleged healthcare bill

The elimination of covering a pre-existing conditions leaves every disabled person in this country with no medical care or even clearer to those uncivilized animals who would think that's okay; pretty much anyone over 35 yrs. of age. The senate and house should be willing to live with any healthcare they propose for their constituents; that is when we will see one-payee Medicare for every person in this country, the Cadillac of healthcare for all. Anyone who supports this should be job hunting for a position in the sewage industry where you belong!!!!

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Carolyn Funaro <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Personal account

My 28 year old daughter Emily has Down Syndrome and other health issues that require frequent doctor and specialist visits.

Last year thanks in large part to Medicaid Waiver she moved out on her own to the [REDACTED] in Jacksonville, Fl. It is a wonderful residential neighborhood for adults with disabilities. If you are not familiar with this amazing place do yourself a favor and look into it!

Moving out on her own was Emily's long time dream come true. She always strived to be like her 2 older sisters and have a full, productive life. She started working part time in her senior year in highschool. She has a boyfriend and hopes to get married some day.

Emily has always worked hard to achieve her goals. She does however require some help and support. Medicaid Waiver provides that support in the form of a personal living coach who helps her with the functions necessary to successfully live on her own. Emily and the other residents at the ARC Village deserve this help.

We as parents have put our own lives and careers on hold to care for our "kids" all their lives due to issues with adequate daycare etc...

We are also facing the frightening reality of who will take care of our children when we are gone.

Please, please consider a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve rather than replace the ACA. Medicaid expansion is not a luxury but a necessity.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sincerely,  
Carolyn Funaro

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Laura Klein [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care bill

I am a breast cancer survivor and rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I want Congress to STRENGTHEN the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laura Klein  
Berkeley, CA 94703

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Teri Miller <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I ask that you vote NO to this attempt  
to pass a health care bill that will punish those with pre-existing conditions.

Thank you,  
Teri Miller

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Alan Medoff [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Keep the ACA

I have some very severe health problems and if it were not for the ACA I would not be able to afford my medications. Please consider how repealing Obamacare is going to affect people that are ill. A political win is one thing but people's health is quite another. Please, please don't do this.

Dr. Alan Medoff, health care provider AND health care patient.

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Shanon Taylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Importance of ACA

I am writing to explain the life-saving difference the mental health parity requirements of the ACA made in the life of my family. I have insurance through my employer. However, my plan always provided weak coverage for any kind of mental health needs. In her early teens, it became apparent that my daughter was experiencing significant mental health problems. We took her to a psychologist, who referred her for more intensive treatment. At the time, my daughter was actively engaged in self-harm (cutting), making suicidal threats, often had explosive outbursts of anger followed by days of sobbing in bed, and was using multiple illegal substances. We had to have her placed on homebound services for school because of anxiety and because she made suicidal threats at school. Her therapist recommended inpatient treatment; our insurance company refused to approve it, insisting first on "intensive outpatient" treatment. She went to the center four days a week, 3 hours a day, and for each day, we had to pay a separate \$25 co-pay. So we paid \$100 a week for a six week course of treatment that accomplished nothing. At the end, we then had another psychologist and a social worker saying she needed inpatient treatment. Instead, the insurance company approved only one visit per week to the therapist and group therapy. We did that for several months (paying all the co-pays) through summer until it was time for school to start and she refused. Again, all professionals working with her plus a psychiatrist who now evaluated her said she needed inpatient care. AGAIN - we were denied and approved only for the six week outpatient treatment she had already done. However, during this time, the mental health parity components of the ACA had gone into effect and I had been doing research. So after the second six week treatment when she still was no better, I informed my insurance company that if they denied me inpatient care for my child's illness in violation of the mental health parity requirements of the ACA, I would file a complaint with our state insurance commissioner. My daughter was the first child ever admitted to the inpatient center under our insurance plan.

She spent about 90 days receiving inpatient treatment, specifically in a dialectical behavioral therapy program. She learned skills for dealing with her anxiety, her mood swings, and her frustration. She became clean and sober. We were able to repair our family relationships. She has never engaged in self-harm behaviors again. In short, because our insurance company was forced to listen to medical professionals and provide the services my daughter needed and not just what they wanted to pay for, she is alive today. She is attending community college and working full-time. She is a contributing, tax-paying citizen and I was so proud to take her to vote in her first election last year.

These are the reasons that things like mental health care and substance abuse treatment must be required to be provided by insurers. No one knows when they will need these services in their family, but when you do, it is a matter of life and death.

Thank you,  
Shanon Taylor

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Adrienne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** This damn health care bill.

No. No. No.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will kill or bankrupt millions while taking away many Americans right to decent health care. Even the republicans have exempted themselves from it because it's so bad. I'm 1000% against this bill.

Adrienne

Sent from Hogwarts ✂☐

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

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**From:** Vavoom1212 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Act

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My family relies on affordable, quality health care. I have multiple autoimmune conditions, and come from a family where autoimmune disease is common. I live many days in pain, fighting fatigue. I am also a breast cancer survivor (whose mother and maternal grandmother also had breast cancer). I have not worked in many years, but I am too proud to file for disability. My husband was born with hereditary hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (an autosomal dominant condition that is entirely genetic and affects 1 in 500 people). This is the disease known to cause sudden cardiac death - even in young children and in pro athletes. We are both 58 years old - which means we will be in the "high-penalty" age cohort.

If the Graham-Cassidy act becomes law, my husband and I will be financially ruined and negatively affected on many other fronts. This bill is by far the worst of the three attempts to repeal the ACA - and the authors of this bill should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves considering the devastation it will wreak on millions of Americans. I would like to see a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA, followed by a bi-partisan effort to create universal, single-payer health insurance coverage for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Laurie Williams

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** L Dunham <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO GrahamCassidy Bill

Attached is my letter to oppose  
#NOGrahamCassidyBill

L. Dunham

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** J & J Schroeder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no on Graham-Cassidy bill!

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would have a devastating impact on me, my son and many of the adult school students I have taught. Instead please work in a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA and ultimately work toward universal health care for all in the US.

Sincerely,  
Janice Schroeder

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Enlightened Haiku Society [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no on the Trumpcare bill

Please do the right thing for America and vote no on the Graham/Cassidy bill. We all need health insurance, the rest of the civilized world has it, why shouldn't we???

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Barb Neddo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Plan

On May 5, 2005, my son, Tom, had a bone marrow transplant to cure his chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML). He has been cancer free for twelve years. The affordable care act allowed my son to receive affordable health insurance (at first on my policy and now on his own). I am writing about my concerns with the new health care act. I want to know what is going to happen to my son's insurance premiums. Will he be able to afford any kind of health insurance? I know that this issue will probably get kicked back to the states. Unfortunately, I live in a state where insurance premium increases will be significantly raised for people with pre-existing conditions.

I am also writing today about living organ/tissue donors being denied health insurance because of a pre-existing condition. I have gone through the process of being tested to donate one of my kidneys to a non-directed recipient. I passed all the tests. One of my kidneys is smaller than the other one and could possibly be used for a child.

I completed testing a year ago. I have been informed by the UW Madison hospital that I have to update some of my tests. I am waiting for the health care issue to be settled to help me with my decision.

I am torn about going ahead with the donation because of the uncertain future of my health care options. I want to know what the plans are for health care legislation. Will I be labeled with a pre-existing condition if I decide to go through with the donation? Will I be saddled with prohibitive health insurance premiums? What do your constituents have to say about health care and pre-existing conditions? Do they like the current Obamacare take on pre-existing conditions or would they like it to change?

Feel free to share my dilemma if it would help move the legislation forward to protect living donors from being denied health insurance or being saddled with cost prohibitive health insurance.

Barb Neddo  
[REDACTED]



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

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** This bill must fail

Passage of the Graham Cassidy bill will certainly result in society in which autistic persons of all ages will suffer in a severe and unnecessary way. Also, their families will find it extremely difficult to remain members of the middle class if they are now required to pay humongous medical and related bills.

We are the parents of Gregory, a 23 year old severely autistic young man. Gregory lives in a group home, and we rely on funding for his living situation. In addition to autism, Gregory suffers from other serious medical conditions.

We respectfully implore that you vote this bill down. Although not perfect, the present system is working relatively well. It is eminently clear that Gregory, his family, and others who are similarly situated are being held captive by extreme partisan politics that have nothing to do with reality. Rejection of this bill is clearly the best choice. It's not even close. As citizens who always take advantage of our right to vote, we will have strong memories on how our representatives vote on this bill, and act accordingly.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong beliefs in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Art, Nancy, Gregory and Rachel Braitman

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Indira [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health bill - physician response

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a physician. I have grave concerns about this health plan.

The 22 million who will be left without healthcare will include the most vulnerable among us -- children, the poor, the elderly and women.

Individuals will not be able to get basic preventive health care, leading to a string of potential consequences, including: the development of more serious health problems, disability, financial strain, bankruptcy and death. The impact will not be confined to just those who lose coverage, but to their neighbors, coworkers, friends, families and communities -- in short, it will hurt all of us.

This bill strikes me as cruel. As the greatest nation on earth, we are positioned to set an example for the rest of the world and take care of our own in an exemplary way. Let's create policies that are fiscally sound while embracing our common values of fairness and compassion.

Indira Gurubhag MD

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** McCabe, Joseph <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.

Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.

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,

Joseph McCabe, MD  
Needham, MA 02492

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richard Edgerton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: Health Care

I meant DO *NOT* rip away health care.  
Cornelia Edgerton

On Friday, September 22, 2017 3:17 PM, Richard Edgerton <redgerton@bellsouth.net> wrote:

Dear Senate: The ACA has provided me with affordable health coverage. I depend on the ACA because I have a pre-existing condition. Please do not rip away health care for millions who need it.

Sincerely,  
Cornelia Edgerton

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Livingston Azoy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Bill

It's monstrous and shameful. Do NOT let it pass!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jessica Loria [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy!

The ACA might not be perfect, but it's helped so many and it went through many rounds of debate before it did. Graham-Cassidy will negate all those efforts, and it is doing so after previous repeal bills failed, ignoring the wishes of the people and their representatives thus far. It also will cause 32 million people to lose coverage and does not protect pre-existing conditions. It's just cruel. Vote no.

Thanks!

--

Regards,

Jessica Loria  
Managing Director

Go Comedy Improv Theater



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michelle Kondrich [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record RE: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This bill is unfathomably cruel and the entire GOP's greed shows right through. I'm guessing you don't want this healthcare for yourself, right?

We can all tell that you don't ACTUALLY care about your constituents. If you did you wouldn't try to lump as many people as possible into those with pre-existing conditions.

This CANNOT pass.

Michelle Kondrich

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pat Liesch <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care act

Please do not pass this graham-cassidy bill. It has not been reviewed by the finance folks, and there have not been public hearings. Instead, please retain Obamecare, and tweak it if you must. Thank you.

Pat Liesch



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO

Please vote no on the effort to repeal Obamacare. Health care is a right, not a privilege. Hard working people deserve quality health care, and pre-existing condition coverage, for the same fees as other coverage, must be protected.  
Mary Beth Guyther

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lisa Benulis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy.

Hello,

I am writing about the proposed Graham/Cassidy bill for the changes to the ACA.

As a registered nurse I am concerned for my patients, I have been researching this bill, and following the many medical organizations that are against it. I am distressed that monies to Medicaid will be reduced so drastically, making costs for seniors, and the disabled skyrocket.

I am also concerned for my family, I have young adult children, and elderly parents. This makes me extremely concerned about the language in the bill regarding protections for pre-existing conditions, as well a coverage for women. I am lucky enough to have insurance through my husbands employer, not everyone is so lucky, I fear our costs will increase too.

I've been reading that this bill will affect 1/6 of the economy. I do not see this as a good thing. I find this bill utterly heartless, a way to give tax cuts to the wealthy, in no way helping the most vulnerable among us.

Please do not pass the Graham/Cassidy bill. Please return together, work on a bipartisan fix to the ACA.

Thank You  
Lisa Benulis.

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

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**From:** Jerome Seaman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** POOR AND MIDDLE CLASS COSTS INCREASE UNDER GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

### **GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL KILLS OBAMACARE AND WILL RAISE THE POOR AND MIDDLE-CLASS COSTS**

Twenty to 30 million people will lose their health insurance. 200,000 TO 300,000 more people WILL DIE in the next ten years. Health insurance PREMIUMS will ALL GO UP to cover the unpaid-for services of the uninsured. Most if not all of those who have none now WILL DEVELOP A COSTLY PREEXISTING CONDITION IN THE FUTURE. Premiums will skyrocket for them. The government's COST SAVINGS will surely FALL ON THE BACKS OF THE POOR AND MIDDLE CLASS. Who else will pay for it? (States will pass on much of these costs through increased taxes on everyone.) Healthcare costs are 1/6 of the US economy. These costs will not disappear.

This health insurance trained and experienced actuary says so. Ask another one if you want.

Ethical teachings of compassion in the "hearts" of Trump, McConnell, Ryan, and legislators will be lost to their iconic unproven trickle-down economic beliefs--especially in the essentially closed marketplaces of healthcare.

Jerome F. Seaman, Retired Fellow, Society of Actuaries, & Member, American Academy of Actuaries, US Citizen

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David Groh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare Graham-Cassidy

I am on Medicare. I have not been affected by the ACA. Here are how it affects some of the people I know.

My granddaughter has changed jobs now but when she worked at MacDonald she bought insurance through the exchanges because the policy that MacDonald offered was so lousy. She was working 50 to 60 hours a week as a manager.

A friend with an adult daughter with many health problems. The daughter can no longer find work in a job that provides healthcare. Without the ACA that friend fears going broke. I don't think he is wealthy but he has a nice home and investments, I am sure.

A neighbor that has benefited from the ACA because of his history of cancer.



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

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeanne Swander [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Please vote NO on the latest Graham Cassidy ACA repeal. This is a disaster for the American people who are depending on health care. Every major medical association, health care workers association, AARP, state Directors of Medicaid, and many governors have come out against this bill.

Do not let dark money, or party, take precedence over the American people.

Vote No!

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jennifer Zoga [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy bill should not be voted on without a proper evaluation rating and debate process. This is irresponsible governing by a partisan coalition.

Stop this insanity.

Jennifer Zoga

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy O'Hara [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on GCH

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,  
Amy OHara

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Geismer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE VOTE NO ON THIS BILL

It's horrible! No protection for young and old! Why can't we live in a country that takes care of our most vulnerable! 30 MILLION PPL SHOULD NOT LOSE THEIR HEALTH INSURANCE! Please vote no!



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rebecca Fowler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare for all

Senate Finance Committee Members:

Your bill will end up costing this nation more than you know. People with chronic conditions will be unable to afford necessary dr. visits and medications. Children will be without essential healthcare that allows them to be healthy, attend school, and become better citizens. Your bill adds costs to those with fixed incomes and takes away the pre-existing condition prohibition. Healthcare will cost more for those who can least afford it.

Finance committee members: when you debate and ponder this bill please consider the costs of implementing such a bill. The cost will be deadly for many.

Sincerely

Rebecca Fowler  
Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Haldiman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** opposition to Graham-Cassidy bill

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I oppose any attempt to repeal or replace the ACA.

Susan Haldiman

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alexander Fabian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO TO GRAHAM CASSIDY

I shouldn't have to do this so often.

Do not destroy health coverage for poor Americans, you irreparable [REDACTED]

Best,  
SO MANY PEOPLE

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lawrence Dvorchik [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare bills

It is appalling this bill does not prevent insurance companies from charging more for preexisting conditions or from instituting a lifetime cap.

Please consider the opinions of experts like the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association (*"This bill harms our most vulnerable patients"*), the American Public Health Association (*"Graham-Cassidy would devastate the Medicaid program, increase out-of-pocket costs, and weaken or eliminate protections for people living with preexisting conditions"*), the National Institute for Reproductive Health (*"the Graham-Cassidy bill preys on underserved communities ... a clear and present danger"*), and Federation of American Hospitals (*"It could disrupt access to health care for millions of the more than 70 million Americans"*) and do not allow this bill in its present form to pass the Senate."

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Lawrence Dvorchik

[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** janice zebert <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy amendment

Good Afternoon,

I am writing as the mother of a 41 year old man with significant intellectual and physical disabilities. Our son is wheelchair bound and nonverbal due to cerebral palsy. He has a seizure disorder and intellectually is on the level of a 3 year old. He requires total care during the 14 hours each day that he is awake, yet he is the joy of our lives. We have been fortunate to have Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for him since he was 21 years old. Therefore, he is able to attend a Day Program for about 4 hrs. per day, and he has a Caregiver for approx. 4 hrs. per day. He is very happy in our home, as any 3 year old would be happy to live with their mom and dad!

Also, under the HCBS program, we have gotten funding to modify our home so it is accessible for him. My husband and I are 68 years old, and have taken comfort in the thought that when we are deceased, under the HCBS program, he could continue to live in our home with 24 hr. staffing.

We are a "middle class family" and my husband and I are both retired (he was a postal worker and I could only clean houses for 30 years, while our son was in school, then Day Program).

We sacrificed a lot, so that our son could continue to live in our home, WITH THE HELP OF THE MEDICAID FUNDING. We know that there are many families with similar situations who have been waiting for years for funding, so they, too, can receive HCBS services for their family member.

Now with the proposed cuts to the Medicaid program, almost all of this would disappear. We are extremely stressed over what would happen to him when we are no longer able to care for him, and when we are deceased.

Please consider our family and the many, many, other families like ours and vote to stop the Graham Cassidy Amendment.

Thank you for your attention to this very vital matter.

Janice Zebert (cell: [REDACTED])

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** lisa greene [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Bill

Hello,

I OPPOSE this healthcare bill because it substantially reduces funding that will go out to states (i.e., no matter how you slice it, the pie is still smaller.)

I also OPPOSE this bill because it can't guarantee healthcare for those with prior healthcare conditions.

Please take these thought into consideration.

Thank-You.

Lisa Ross  
Senior Acute Care Representative

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maggie Feakins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no to graham Cassidy bill

This bill is cruel and unusual punishment. It would leave millions without healthcare, for things they cannot control! Please vote no. As a woman who had asthma and who would like to have kids one day. As a woman whose father had cancer, and as a decent human I BEG of you to vote no.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Peter Schiano <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because my family has cancer survivors who won't be able to afford cancer survivor insurance rates, which this bill won't prevent. I also have a family member who suffered a collapsed lung at 22 and would have been bankrupted without ACA coverage. My 27 year old son would be uninsured without the Medicare expansion. Please strengthen ACA (reinsurance for most expensive cases, etc) to stabilize markets. Please don't slash coverage minimums and subsidies and put the insurance market in chaos. Would your family go without insurance, or prescription or mental health coverage? We are too great a nation to cut people adrift without health care.

Peter Schiano

19446  
[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Julia Lane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No cuts/ caps on Medicaid  
**Attachments:** FB\_IMG\_1506112054222.jpg; DSCN0911 - Copy.JPG

Hello,

We are a family of 5, with 2 working parents. Our oldest of 3 boys happens to have Down Syndrome. Before getting his waiver approved, speech and occupational therapy costs were a financial difficulty for our family. Carson is very worthy though, of having all resources needed to help him reach his full potential. He is currently a 6th grader in [REDACTED] getting an inclusive education and doing well. As he ages, Medicaid programs currently available will be crucial to helping him continue to grow and develop as a healthy, independent individual and aide in his goal to someday have a job. Please take into consideration all the individuals living with Down Syndrome and other developmental disabilities and the major impact Medicaid cuts or caps will have in their lives. Vote NO on the Graham/Cassidy proposal and help us save Medicaid!

Thanks for your time,  
Julia Lane

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ariesa West-Gaylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** "No"

I would like to say that I do not want ACA repealed with GrahamCassidy health care. It will not help the American people at all. State by state insurance we had before now wasn't & didn't help anyone. It was hard to get help I know because my grandma & mother didn't get the best care at all. The state as usual will give some help while the ones that can't afford healthcare gets sicker. We don't want this healthcare the numbers show that the American people don't want it. No one in the White House is listening. This isn't the campaign trail anymore this is about millions of lives. Do not repeal or replace ACA.

Thank you,  
Ariesa West-Gaylor

Sent from my iPod

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Riverhouse [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO NO NO to Graham-Cassidy Bill and how it would effect me

I am strongly against the GH Bill. I have pre-existing conditions that would bankrupt me or kill me if I lose my insurance. My husband was an ER nurse for 38 years, working long 12-hour night shifts to help his community. He ended up after retirement with NO insurance. If it wasn't for the ACA we would be unable to have insurance. We are simple patriotic Americans who want to pay taxes and live and give in our community. The GH Bill will make it impossible for us to afford health insurance. Please have compassion and do the morally right thing and do not allow this bill to pass. If the republicans are pro-life then surely they know that this bill will destroy lives.

Thank you for your consideration,

Beverly Moore

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shelly Madden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy bill

I strongly oppose the pending proposed Graham/Cassidy bill to repeal the ACA (Obamacare). Such an irresponsible act would endanger the health and very lives of many of my family members and friends. Premiums would skyrocket and people with pre-existing conditions may not be able to find an insurance coverage available at any price.

Taking money from the states where the legislatures responsibly expanded Medicaid and giving the money to states where the legislators refused to help their own citizens would make matters even worse.

IF anything is to be changed about Obamacare, I strongly support making Medicaid expansion mandatory in all states.

This proposed bill should not even proceed for a vote. It is dangerous and unconscionable. This bill demonstrates a complete lack of caring for the most vulnerable citizens in our country.

Shelly Madden  
63125

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Patricia Mayer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 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 has a pre-existing condition and this bill will affect him directly like millions of other Americans. Real reform requires real effort on both sides of the aisle to work together for the entire country.

Patricia Mayer

18966  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Food Sherpa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA repeal efforts

Good Afternoon and thank you for listening. Here is a fact never seen in the news

Every tax paying citizen who has been injured on the job has a pre-existing condition. Think about it, every single person who has been unfortunate enough to get injured *on the job* risks getting *denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions*.

Because of pre-existing conditions, **I went without health care for 20 years**. Even though I was employed, the health insurance offered by my employers denied me coverage due to a pre-existing condition. I was a trauma radiologic technologist for 15 years pulling in about 80K per year. Since 1995, the year of my injury, I have not been able to clear the poverty line.

I was assisting three other techs with a patient and my left side went numb. This injury, the following surgery, the horrible worker's comp system and the health care system took everything from me. I lost my profession, my savings, my retirement and my mental health. During the lengthy rehabilitation process, I used my savings, and my retirement to cover the difference between worker's comp payments and my bills. The worker's comp system was structured so that I capped out at 17% of my former income. The rehabilitation department could not come up with a new profession that was comparable. The most insulting part is to be denied health coverage again and again by my subsequent employer's insurance companies. Now mind you, I have not had a single problem resulting from this injury in over 10 years, except the anti-depressants I now need. Once ObamaCare went into place I had my first checkup in 20 plus years. During this exam it was discovered I was so anemic I needed a blood transfusion. This health problem could have been cured years ago with iron supplements costing about \$20 per year. I almost died because of a condition completely unrelated to my injury and due solely to insufficient health care.

My husband had his first heart attack the day before our ACA coverage went into place. He would not have coverage currently without the ACA. He would, and pardon my bluntness, be dead without it. That is not an exaggeration. His medications alone would cost the same amount as our rent leaving us destitute and homeless without sufficient resources to cope.

Please, I am begging you, do not repeal the ACA.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cheryl McCarthy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:48 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

No to Graham-cassidy healthcare bill

Cheryl McCarthy

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** SJCookMD [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GC bill

Dear Senators,

I've been a physician for over 25 yrs. I practiced as a primary care provider who also provided obstetrical care, and emergency services. I provided direct care to patients, infants and adults, both in and out of the hospital including those who required care in the NICU, ICU, and CCU. I have seen just about everything there is to see and treat as a physician. Unlike most physicians, I also studied health care coding, coverage, and billing for most insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid. I became an expert at navigating well over 100 insurance provider/policies available in the Seattle area in any given year. I practiced in Urban and rural settings in WA, IL, and OK. I saw the inequality of coverage discovering with horror that some poor elderly patients chose to eat cat food sandwiches so they could afford their prescription drugs. I saw people in all economic positions who were sick and, yes some, even died without insurance and affordable access to healthcare. Good health and life should be a human right in this country and providing health insurance to allow medical care for all is essential. I was a small business owner and I purchased insurance for my employees beginning 20 years ago. It was at a cost, sure, but was the right thing to do. I myself was uninsured for many years due to preexisting conditions. I know firsthand the cost in dollars, mental and physical health I paid while uninsured. ALL state Medicaid agencies, and every boarding medical speciality, associations, AARP, etc etc etc who have spoken out are against this bill. They know stuff. Please trust them and people like me who were in the trenches. Please vote No and do what we the people of this country deserve and expect from you our elected leaders. Work together to find a solution that serves all of the people. Look around at all the countries (NOT US) who provide care to their people. None are doing anything like you are proposing. PLEASE VOTE NO! I promise you, from years of experience, approving this will harm and kill our people; maybe even me. Shore up the ACA until you've figured this out together. Oh, stop the sabotage of ACA enrollment by closing signup for a large portion of time on the weekend. That's when most people have time and access to review options and sign up. Remember people will pay dearly for your inaction or poor choices here. I truly believe that being an American means we lift up, respect, and protect those in need around us. We must stand together or we all fall. Thank you.

Best of health and safety for you and your families, Sherilyn J Cook MD.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Steph Gmail [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

You are asking for responses to the Graham Cassidy bill. Here's mine.

I am a pediatrician practicing in New York. This health plan will hurt our most vulnerable. It will take care away from millions including children, the poor, the elderly and women.

We need a single payer system. We need to join every other developed nation and provide basic health care.

Please do not pass this bill.

Stephanie Carlucci MD

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachael Snider [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:03 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare bill

To whom it may concern,

I am a school teacher and I am sufferer of an autoimmune diseases I didn't know choose this and I can't change it. This new healthcare bill that was introduced is dangerous for millions of people people like me. I need adequate health care provided by health insurance in order to keep me alive. If this bill is past there are no guarantees that I could get affordable health care because of my pre existing condition. This means treatments that I need , medications that I need I could not afford. This would be devastating to my health and could lead to death. There are millions of people who need affordable healthcare or their lives are at jeopardy. This bill should not be passed and is unethical!

We should save lives instead.

Thank you,  
Rachael Snider

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gina Lefferts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I vehemently oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is this: I have a daughter with cystic fibrosis. My husband had a coronary heart attack a couple of years ago, and I recently had knee-replacement surgery because of arthritis. All of these would be pre-existent conditions, and our coverage would be jeopardized should the Graham Cassidy bill be passed. I would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Furthermore, the argument that health care should be managed at the state level because states face different challenges just does not hold water. People everywhere need affordable health care. Every state has people with heart conditions, children with cystic fibrosis, elderly (and not so elderly) women with arthritis. To federalize this issue is not in anyone's best interest. Please kill the Graham Cassidy bill as quickly as possible. Thank you.

*Gina Lefferts*

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing

I respectfully submit this testimony for the hearing:

I have been providing healthcare since I worked as a nurses aide at the age of 16, and have been an RN since 1974. Please believe me when I say that I have seen it all, from people going without healthcare because they cannot afford it and being diagnosed with end stage cancer because they waited too long, to families bankrupt due to medical bills, to children with severe disabilities who were able to eventually live productive lives as working taxpayers because they received the right intervention by the healthcare team early in their lives via Medicaid. I have seen the elderly in nursing homes exhaust their financial resources and end up on Medicaid. 2/3 of the elderly in nursing homes do end up on Medicaid. I have seen how greedy insurance company CEOs are paid as much as \$27.9 MILLION in salary and benefits for a mere one year's work, while that same company says it cannot make enough money to insure people under the ACA in many areas of the country. I have seen Medicare improve the health of our seniors over the years. Medicare does that with a very low overhead of about 2.5% in administrative costs, while the average private insurer has administrative costs of 25-35%. This PROVES that a single payer healthcare insurance system would bring down healthcare costs. We do not need to fund insurance companies' CEOs' wealth. We need to take care of all of our citizens first. I have seen the number of bankruptcies decrease drastically because of the Affordable Healthcare Act. Yes, some have had to pay more for their insurance under the ACA, but all in all many more have benefitted than have been harmed.

As a taxpayer, I am happy to contribute my taxes so that ALL people can have affordable healthcare via health insurance, including Medicaid. I believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege. I believe that a country is judged by how it treats ALL of its citizens, including the elderly. I worry that our Congress will go against the will of the majority of the people and take healthcare away from millions of people. I worry that babies and children with disabilities will not get the care that they need to become working productive taxpaying citizens because of cuts to Medicaid. I worry that the elderly who depend on Medicaid for their nursing home will be turned out on the streets, because urging homes cannot stay open if they don't receive payment.

Most hospitals in the US have slim operating margins and will not survive severe Medicaid cuts. Hospices and other healthcare providers are in the same situation. Healthcare is 1/6 of the economy, and if you decide to decimate healthcare by voting for this horrible bill you will decimate jobs for many people when healthcare providers will have to close. You will be taking healthcare away from at least 32,000,000 people. Uninsured people end up getting no healthcare, or they receive services and do not pay for them. Healthcare providers who provide unpaid care eventually close, or raise prices on those who do pay.

I ask all members of Congress to work in a bipartisan way to KEEP the ACA and improve it. We should do no less for our citizens, if we value human life.. I ask all members of Congress to get out into the cities and towns of America, and REALLY SEE the amazing work that hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, rehabilitation centers, drug treatment centers, programs for the disabled, etc. do with our Medicaid funds. I know it is true; I have been there. I have worked or volunteered or visited all of these settings where this marvelous work is done.

Why can't you drop the party polarization and get to work? Your constituents depend on it. You need to have extensive hearings and listen to ALL of the stakeholders, not just your big business donors and the billionaires who have threatened to cut off donations if you don't pass this bill. If you have one ethical bone left in your body, you will oppose this bill. If 100% of major healthcare organizations and AARP are telling you that this bill is wrong, that should mean

something. There is a lot that can be done to lower healthcare costs, such as allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and not allowing insurance CEOs to be paid millions annually. And may I be so radical to suggest looking at the huge cost savings that a single payer system could provide?

Sincerely,

Carol A. LaBorie, BSN, RN

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Intesar Haider [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment on Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Please do not repeal the Affordable Care Act. Certainly do not replace it with the Graham-Cassidy bill. Please work with Democrats to make the ACA better and eliminate the deficiencies of ACA. Work towards making the lives of the American people better and don't simply work for your rich donors.

S. Intesar Haider

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Leslie Walch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Replacing Obama care with the Graham-Cassidy Bill is a crime in my opinion. When will the government start thinking about the people it should be serving instead of special interest groups and people like the Koch brothers.

“Repeal and Replace” which the GOP SAID would be better..and it is NOT, and they know it! They are kicking their failures down to the states to fix, and they don't have the resources. This is the worst kind of lie the GOP has come up with.

I am hoping that ears and hearts are opening and that the right things will be done to repair the healthcare issue.

Leslie Walch

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ratliff, Tammy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT repeal the Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act is so helpful to many people including those that can not vote or have a voice in decision-making health care. I urge you to NOT REPEAL the Affordable Care Act and protect those most vulnerable - our students!  
Tammy Ratliff, Public School Educator



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pat [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** New Healthcare Bill

This bill is horrible! Please direct your attention elsewhere.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Haydee Herrera [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Finance Committee Graham-Cassidy hearing

Please analyze the benefits of this bill, and DO NOT vote for it.  
It is unhealthy for the population!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Hatter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Any health care bill that enforces lifetime caps on coverage and doesn't guarantee coverage for people with pre-existing conditions shouldn't even be considered a viable plan for healthcare in this country. Millions of people will lose health coverage under this bill, and women especially will be hurt. I am diabetic, and this would be devastating for me. The ACA should not be repealed, it should be strengthened so that more people are covered and can get the health care to which they have the right.

--  
Sarah  
sehatter83 at gmail dot com

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kara Cohen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this bill will put the most vulnerable members of our society, the poor, those with disabilities, and pre-existing conditions at risk of not not be able to access needed health care. It will also resume financial chaos of emergency rooms trying to pay for the health care of the medically frail who will increase their utilization to these institutions when they are denied access to primary care and preventive healthcare services. Our community members will live sicker and die younger due to ge health disparities this bill will cause. We need a bill written with bipartisan input and open hearings that will demonstrate a solid CBO score. I urge you to vote no on this bill.

Kara Cohen

19148  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Curtis Harris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Cassidy-Graham Block Grant Bill and my story benefited from the Medicaid expansion

My name is Curtis Harris

The Cassidy-Graham bill affects people like me, people with autism and developmental disabilities. If the bill passes I will be at risk of not getting Medicaid services, services that will help me live independently in my own home instead of an institution. In Illinois, there is a waiting list for people with developmental disabilities to receive services. The list is called the Priority of Urgency Needed Services which we shorted it to PUNS. Like tens of thousands of others in Illinois, I've been a part of that waiting list for a long time. I hope to secure services soon, but if the Senate passes the Cassidy-Graham states could lose hundreds of millions of dollars in Medicaid supports. The fate of healthcare leaves a big question mark for people with disabilities like me. I hope to receive the supports I need to be healthy and independent in my own home instead of a hospital or institution. The Cassidy-Graham bill poses an even greater threat to individuals with mental illness and addiction disorders and the providers that serve them. Patients with mental health and addiction disorders will be especially hurt as they disproportionately rely on traditional Medicaid and Medicaid expansion. The cuts in mental health and substance addiction in Cassidy-Graham bill will be close to \$400 million forcing states to cut funding to community mental health centers where people reclaim their lives of going to therapeutic structured groups, Supportive Affordable Housing and Supportive Employment Specialist and live better lives. Community Mental Health Centers are less expensive than Emergency Room, Hospital, Incarceration and nursing homes and institutions. Illinois spends more money on incarceration like Cook County Jail for mental health treatment than community mental health centers. Cook County Jail is the No. 1 mental health center treatment in Illinois No 2 in the nation behind Los Angeles County Jail. The cuts of mental health treatment in Cassidy-Graham will make Cook County Jail overcrowded more overcrowded. Cuts to Developmental Disability/Intellectual Disability will amount to \$72.4 billion in the Cassidy-Graham bill, leaving many to lose their freedom and Independence to live in the Community as opposed to more expensive institutions. The Trump Administration is planning to cut \$610 million in cuts to Medicaid \$72.4 billion in cuts to Social Security's disability programs; and hundreds of billions more in cuts to other effective federal programs that are vital to people with I/DD Intellectual Disability and Developmental Disability including in the Cassidy-Graham bill.

I have benefited from Medicaid from going to Community Mental Health Center like Thresholds Dincin Center For Recovery in Ravenswood for 10 years of going to therapeutic structured groups, Supportive Employment and being on the waiting list for affordable housing and to get and keep a job through Supportive Employment and potentially live in my own home. All of this is uncertain. Medicaid has taken the reminding care for my primary care doctor, dietitian, social worker/therapist, psychiatrist and if need in non-life-threaten Crisis Center like the Turning Point Living Room in Skokie and Swedish Covenant Warming Center. Let's not go back to the days when people with developmental disability and mental illness are put away in institutions. Thank You and God Bless You

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anna Lapp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:13 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

I work full time for a small business that cannot provide insurance. I own my home. I pay my taxes. I vote.

I recently developed complications due to undiagnosed Lyme Disease. I've racked up thousands of dollars worth of medical bills in a matter of weeks. Thanks to my ACA coverage, I only have to pay less than \$1,000. So far, anyway. I'm not done visiting specialists, yet. I need my insurance, and I am not the only one. My health issues are so mild compared to what some people are dealing with. Yes, the system is broken. No, Graham-Cassidy is in no way the answer.

It's stressful enough to worry about losing my eyes from a rare reaction to a tick borne illness. I should never have to finance my eye balls.

No one should be penalized for working for a small, local business. No one should be penalized for having preexisting conditions. Single payer is the way to go. But, at the very least, kill Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you for your time,  
Anna Lapp

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Breed, Michael <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; 'publicpolicy@nashia.org'  
**Cc:** 'Paige Havens'; Jane Jackson (jane@braininjurygeorgia.org)  
**Subject:** SAH (subarachnoid hemorrhage) Survivor

Dear BIAG Committee Members,

My name is Michael Allen Breed and I'm a stroke survivor who has been blessed with only a handful of post SAH issues. My stroke didn't just result in a negative impact to my life but it also had a silver lining. I now have new found friends who are survivors, caregivers and people that work to support meetings and rehabilitation. I equate my close friends to those people "who would I want in my foxhole." Since my stroke, I have to dig a larger foxhole to accommodate everyone. They get life and understand survival... I love these people with a passion.

Unfortunately, some of my new friends have lost their battle fighting a stroke or TBI (traumatic brain injury). I am fortunate enough to work for a great company that had, and still has, excellent medical coverage. But, the majority of my peers are struggling with medical support, rehabilitation and finances. As I continue to heal and learn from my experience and others, I'm finding out very few people understand brain injuries and how they change a person and effect their lives. It's not like a heart attack or cancer, which are still very serious illnesses. Brain injuries change a person forever. Some have disabilities for life, some are visible and some are not. There are still many unknowns when it comes to brain injuries.

As a survivor, and from someone who has been there, it's the most terrifying experience a human being can go through. No one comes out on the other side unscathed. My injuries are all internal so I appear fine or normal; whatever normal can be defined as or in my case the new normal. The last thing my peers need is the added stress of not knowing if their medical coverage is going to be dropped or not be continued or extended until they have reached an exceptional level of healing. They live day by day with these battered and broken bodies, not to mention the mental aspect. Stress has been a major trigger for some stroke victims but also can delay or retard recovery.

My Senator is Johnny Isakson who owns several award-winning residential retirement communities. My in-laws have live in Park Springs since it opened in 2003. My father in-law was fortunate to be an executive for Coca-Cola and to have invested in long term health coverage. The survivors we are supporting may or may not have been as fortunate to attain this level of wealth or to plan for unforeseen medical conditions. Either way, even those without brain injuries will be directly affected if this bill gets quashed.

Sincerely,

*Michael A. Breed*

MICHAEL BREED  
Veteran USAF  
Director, Manufacturing Engineering  
ARRIS

O: +1 [REDACTED]  
C: +1 [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]  
W: [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ellen Brookstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because  
....  
too many people will suffer from lack of health care or skyrocketing costs.

Ellen Brookstein

19034  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cindy Hays <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on affordable healthcare. Both my husband and my son-in-law have cancer and can not afford for their insurance premiums to keep rising. I would like to see a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Hays

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Hayley Notter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do NOT pass Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

Please stop trying to completely upend one-sixth of the US economy through these horrific healthcare bills (i.e. Graham-Cassidy) without due process and regular order. The fact that this bill is even being considered without allowing adequate time to receive a complete CBO score and analysis is atrocious - especially when this bill is being pushed by a party that "claims" to value fiscal responsibility.

36 days ago, my stepdad fell ill with acute pancreatitis. For more than a month now, my mom and I have been running to and from the hospital while working full-time jobs. It has been very hard. During this time, my stepdad has been in and out of the ICU. Our primary concern is his health, but in the back of our minds, we're all anxious for when his hospital bills begin arriving.

Let me be clear: my stepfather has good insurance from his employer. Yet, even WITH insurance, we know the costs of this terrible disease he randomly fell victim to will be significant. Like Jimmy Kimmel, I am speaking out because I am thinking of the other families who may be in this same position, but may not be as fortunate as my family. Who is looking out for them? The answer should be: you.

This bill cannot pass. Especially since this is being done purely for political reasons. I understand the difficulty of politics: the pressure you are under from your constituents and apparently, from the large GOP donors who are threatening to pull their support if you do not pass a Repeal & Replace healthcare bill & provide them with the tax breaks they demand. I get it. The American people are not stupid. We see what is happening here.

But the fact that you would be willing to succumb to political pressure on THIS topic, when the stakes are so high, (literally determining who will live and who will die) tells me everything I need to know about the GOP.

I'm writing this to you in the hopes of appealing to your morality, although, the fact that you have already proven that you are willing to gamble with the lives of Americans like my stepdad, suggests that a moral argument will likely fail. However, at 27, I knew I had to try. There is still a lot of future ahead for me personally and for our country. I hope you will do the right thing to insure that future is bright for us all.

Thank you,  
Hayley Notter

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeff Schatz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy

**Title Of Hearing:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

**Date of the Hearing:** September 25, 2017

**Full Name:** Jeffrey S. Schatz

**Address:** [REDACTED] CO 80304

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please reject the Graham-Cassidy Proposal. This bill would move our country backwards, and will harm those who need protection the most -- people with disabilities and pre-existing conditions. There are many things wrong with this bill, and it certainly should not be rushed through before it is evaluated by the CBO to determine its full effect.

Thank you,  
Jeff Schatz

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Catherine Abreu [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham- Cassidy Bill

Dear Members of the Congress,

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill which would harm my spouse and me in our senior years, not to mention the thousands of people with disabilities & those who need care without financial resources.

I heartily promote a bi-partisan commission to resume their work to amend the Affordable Care Act. It is with joint participation & the welfare of the American people at the forefront of the members, we can move forward in the area of healthcare.

A sincerely concerned citizen,  
Catherine Abreu

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nora Hogan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill OPPOSITION

Hello,

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

My story is this:

My cousin, Robert, is one of 30,000 people in the United States living with Cystic Fibrosis. Because of this, I demand a healthcare bill that guarantees healthcare to those with preexisting conditions and protects people like my brother from insurance lifetime caps.

With the Graham-Cassidy bill, my brother would likely be denied healthcare because of his Cystic Fibrosis, or have his coverage quickly reach its dollar limit because of his reliance on many daily, life saving medications and trips in and out of hospital to treat serious lung infections.

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

Thank you,  
Nora Hogan

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Katherine Stuart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Why GCH Bad for Me

I am a self employed writer. I have always paid for my own health insurance because it is the responsible and right thing to do. Before the Affordable Care Act, my insurance premiums and out of pocket doctors bills took up the predominate portion of my income. More than my rent. And I am healthy. Furthermore, I paid a really high premium for what was essentially catastrophic coverage. Which means, my insurance really didn't do anything.

ACA has allowed me to survive. To have insurance that covers preventative and life saving office visits such as a yearly physical and gynecologist appointment. As I head into my 50's, this becomes even more important. Because no matter how healthy I live (pretty health), things start to show the signs of wear and tear.

Trying to replace a system this vast and complicated at the last minute with no bi-partisan support simply so republicans can have a "win" is irresponsible. Wrong. And dangerous. It would adversely affect tens of millions of Americans, including myself.

Please reconsider.

Thank you,

Katherine Stuart

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Hello

I am a constituent of Senator Blumenthal's. I live in Stamford, CT and I strongly ask him to vote NO on the current Graham-Cassidy bill.

It will hurt more families than it will help. We, the people, want to see Republicans & Democrats work together in Congress to craft improvements to the current ACA. We want real hearings and we want a bill that does not get rushed through without a proper CBO scoring.

A "no" vote on Graham-Cassidy is a "yes" vote on a new age of bipartisan compromise and bill-crafting that will benefit ALL Americans.

Thank you.

-Maya

Maya Noren  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Chuck Mackie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Say "no" to Graham - Cassidy

To the U.S. Senate,

Please vote "no" on Graham-Cassidy. Not only is the bill deeply flawed but the repeated attempts by the majority to avoid an open, honest, and bipartisan debate are beneath the dignity and tradition of the Senate. Stand up as true leaders and engage in a spirited and thorough debate so that the best possible outcome can be achieved. Healthcare is too important to be dealt with in this way.

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All the best,

Chuck Mackie



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stacy Stone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender )  
Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. It will negatively impact my entire family as each one of us is considered to have a pre-existing condition. I'm mostly concerned for my younger son, as he has been followed by a cardiologist his whole life, requiring surgery at age 11. He also has asthma and allergies (as does my husband). With proper medical care, my son lives a normal life. Graham-Cassidy could well put health care out of reach for my son and for an estimated 32 million other Americans. It is a heartless, unconscionable tax break for the wealthy--and death sentence for many.

Stacy Stone

19355  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Peter Steele 1 <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Please be advised that the Graham Cassidy Bill has my family's strongest opposition. The purpose of a healthcare bill should be to provide the best healthcare that can be provided to the citizens of the ENTIRE country. I am an American. You are an American. All citizens whether taxpaying or not are citizens, and thereby are entitled to the same chance at life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, regardless of whether they live in New York, Alabama, Michigan, Louisiana, or Nevada. By dividing the healthcare dollars by block grants to the states, you are allowing states to determine whom, and for whom, and to what amount they wish to fund their healthcare dollars. While this may fit in fine with your philosophical view of government, it will result in the loss of comparable medicaid coverage for the aged, the poor, children, and the disabled. We are a nation of people, those people are our citizens. There can be no excuse for a child dying in one state because that state's government chose not to provide the care that would have been available had he or she lived just one state over.

This bill is being pushed recklessly through Congress in a partisan manner. No consideration has been given to the fact that the CBO has not been allowed the time required to rate it. You have only a vague estimate, made up of whole cloth, of the number of people who will lose their healthcare insurance totally if this measure passes. You have no way of knowing how high insurance rates will rise if the block grants are awarded to yet unformed delivery systems of the 50 states. Your only thought is to fulfill a promise you'd made for seven years without any thought of how you would fulfill it once the occasion arose. That's not the fault of your constituencies who are depending upon you to help them meet their needs in order for them to remain productive. It may be that you are feeling that by transferring this hot potato to the states, that you, as congressmen, will avoid the fallout that will assuredly result from this. Rest assured, the memories of your votes will remain in the minds in the public well into the next election period.

We all know that the ACA needs repair. It is, in spite of your prognostications, not on life support, but there are major changes that could be effected in order so solve the often cited issues that are affecting its performance. Both sides of the aisle recognize most if these and are capable of developing workable "fixes" . For the sake of your constituencies, lay down this lame attempt that would worsen the problem, and develop and pass the fixes as quickly as possible. It's the American and human thing to do.

Thank You

Peter B. Steele

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** J Nerney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Good afternoon,

Having finally found out what it is in the latest healthcare bill before the senate, I am appalled. It is truly distressing that each time this "repeal and replace" issue is brought forward, the replacement is progressively more repulsive. This bill is, quite simply, a disaster, and the manner in which it is being sneaked through the legislative process speaks volumes of its so-called writers.

NO, NO, NO to Graham-Cassidy.

-Joseph Nerney

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Obamacare Repeal

Please vote NO on the upcoming GOP repeal effort. Every American deserves health care.  
Thank you.

Kathy McHenry

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Brew <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Fwd: Graham Cassidy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mary Brew <[marybrew@yahoo.com](mailto:marybrew@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** September 22, 2017 at 8:16:46 AM EDT  
**To:** [gchcomments@senate.finance.gov](mailto:gchcomments@senate.finance.gov)  
**Subject:** **Graham Cassidy**

Monday's hearing is intended to be window dressing. The reverse of a kangaroo court to prop up a terrible bill the people who elected you clearly DO NOT WANT! An abomination. You are shoving through a bill affecting 1/6 of our economy that has no CBO score. You Republicans seem to have forgotten you do not work for the Koch brothers. If you insist on continuing down this truly stupid path then in about 13.5 months the people you really work for will be sending you a powerful message.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ruthi Duval [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; Ruthi Duval  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassady Repeal Bill

Please, please, please do not let this go through. Our country has enough to deal with right now. Do not take our health care away!!!!

Ruthi Duval

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karen Sands [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I am vehemently opposed to the passage of this bill and the repeal of the ACA. Please do not put your constituents in harm's way by repealing their healthcare.

I appreciate your time.

Karen Sands

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Annette Oliveira <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable care Act

Hello:

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Medicaid restrictions created by this bill would hurt my nephew who is raising four children. He is paid as an LPN by Medicaid and has health insurance under the ACA. I have a grand nephew with cerebral palsy who also relies on Medicaid funds. We need money for medicine not the military.

Please do not pass this bill.

Paz y Amor,  
Annette

*Annette Amelia Oliveira*

[REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Caitlin Walsh piano by ear [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** graham cassidy bill comments

I am disabled and female, I'm terrified of this bill. It would cost much more to have a baby and abortions would be made unaffordable. I'm sick of being punished because I was born with a female reproductive system. I also use Medicaid. This would gut that service. My father is on the afca, without that he will not have insurance. After my mother's death it is the only insurance he can afford. I'm so sick of this administration using scare tactics and being nothing but over grown racist, sexist bullies. The world is already scary enough without monsters like these. Having a preexisting condition would be unaffordable as well.

Thank you.

Best

Caitlin Walsh

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mara Spece [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I Strongly Condemn This Bill

I strongly condemn this bill and urge you to put your constituents first, not your corporate campaign donors. It is an embarrassment that we do not have universal access to healthcare in this country, and that the cost of providing healthcare is so high. I urge you to consider the single payer bill that has been introduced.

Thank you,

Mara Spece  
11237

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mariah Snyder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

I am distressed at the speed at which a bill that is critical to almost all Americans (except the very rich) is being trying to be sped through the Senate. All major health care organizations and organizations that represent the elderly and vulnerable in society are against it. Because of all of these reasons and its impact on the well being of Americans, I oppose the bill.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Courtney Fay [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham - Cassidy Bill

The senate has no business voting on legislation that would affect 1/6th of economy without full weight of a CBO score. It is your job to ensure that the fiscal responsibility is upheld, not just in the government, but for the protection of citizens.

Health care that does not protect what patients are charged in premiums, is not health care.

Please stop this bill, and work on a bipartisan effort to really help hard working Americans have affordable universal health care. Our ability to get care and to live, shouldn't be determined by how wealthy we are.

Thank you,

Courtney Fay  
Citizen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katie Thurer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT PASS THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

Citizens of the United States rely on quality affordable health care. As a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist I spent much of my career working with underserved communities. These women and their families have benefited tremendously from the Affordable Care Act, especially the expansion of Medicaid.

On a personal note, I, like many other people in the country, have had my share of medical problems. Getting rid of the pre-existing condition clause would preclude my ability to be insured, which would then jeopardize my health. Who wants this? Not me.

Nothing is perfect, I am aware of this.

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

Sincerely,  
Dr. Katherine A Thurer

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Meredith Rose [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** IMPROVE ACA -- NO NOT REPEAL IT

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill that will repeal the Affordable Care Act. The ACA is essential to providing millions of Americans with quality, affordable healthcare. My friends and family members rely on it. Tax payer dollars allow for every single member of Congress to receive quality healthcare. *All* Americans deserve quality health care -- the ACA provides it. A bi-partisan Congressional panel should ensure that the ACA is reformed to become the best bill it can be, but Congress should not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Meredith Rose

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dorothy Rooney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I have been denied insurance in the past for arthritis. I am close to retirement age and cannot afford to not have insurance.

I would like to see both our Republican and Democratic public servants to sit down and discuss viable options. Politics should be about compromise and meeting somewhere in the middle. We need a win for everyone not one party. Think of all the people that will be devastated by loss of healthcare. Please, have some compassion.

Dorothy Rooney

19046  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dr Claudia Welch <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear People,

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

It is highly important to me that Medicaid never be cut and only be supplemented, if anything. **My mother has Alzheimer's and is in a residential care facility that we could never afford without every penny of the assistance she receives from Medicaid (even with my husband and I working full time).** Medicaid offers these lifelines to millions of families like mine and I am...yes...very frightened about the effects if this healthcare bill were to pass or if Medicaid were threatened. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Dr. Claudia Welch

Calais, Vermont

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Dr. Claudia Welch



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kyllikki Rytov [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 9:41 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy: Scoliosis & Cardiac Arrhythmia

To whom it may concern:

Respectfully, this bill is not an action that seeks to serve the American people.

Mike Pence, back on June 24, asserted that repealing the ACA would be based on "personal responsibility"; and conservative pundits like Stephen Moore have also argued the personal accountability line--on July 10, he claimed that insurance should be like "car insurance" and that "half" of those needing universal coverage are responsible for their own pre-existing conditions. Let's be clear: personal accountability has nothing to do with how bodies work, and risk pools rely on everyone paying in so that those who end up needing help can get it.

When I was eleven, I was diagnosed with severe scoliosis: a congenital condition over which I and my parents had no control. My spine was rapidly growing in a lateral S shape, and surgery (fusing the vertebrae from my lower neck to L3/L4) was necessary. We could **only** afford the surgery because my father worked for the **state government**: he worked for the railroad. As a result, we didn't end up drowning in medical debt.

When I was thirty, I was diagnosed with supraventricular tachycardia (SVT), an arrhythmia that simply develops in otherwise healthy hearts: as cells grow, a "bad" electrical pathway can emerge, and the heart, instead of beating normally, randomly jumps in rate; I was diagnosed after my husband drove me to the ER with a heart rate of 180; the ER had to give me not one, not two, but **three** doses of adenosine to break the bad rhythm and bring my HR down. This was followed by surgery to ablate the bad pathway. How did I afford this out of pocket? I didn't: I was living in Kentucky at the time, and, thanks to Steve Beshear's expanded Medicaid program, everything was covered so that, again, I didn't end up drowning in medical debt.

Congress is charged with the responsibility of legislating in the best interest of the American people. This bill does not reflect that. My personal examples are not anomalies or exceptions: every day, Americans are diagnosed with disorders or conditions **for which they are not responsible**. If you want to argue about smoking and lung cancer, then do that elsewhere--but do not penalize all of us in the interim.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Kyllikki Rytov

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amanda Fields [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Commentary on GC bill

Dear committee,

I write to condemn the latest healthcare bill and discourage its passage. The concept of "repeal and replace" has done nothing to address the real problems average citizens face, and passing this new piece of legislation would be a clear sign to the American people that our representatives are persuaded more by political prowess and money than the health of their citizens. We know that this bill brings back pre-existing conditions clauses, allows insurers to raise rates when a patient receives a new diagnosis, allows states to cut funding for, or let insurers exclude, maternity services, hospitalizations, laboratory tests, dental benefits for children, mental health, and substance abuse programs.

Our health is not a game, and one of our most pressing needs in this nation is to offer quality healthcare for all. Every plan that has been put forward since January is the furthest cry from that.

We know that individual states will be allowed to prevent women's clinics from charging Medicaid for services like cancer screenings and birth control. We know that it shifts billions of dollars of costs onto states, giving them incentive to cut the above items. We know that it lets states spend block grants on non-healthcare spending. We know that federal aid for Medicaid would plummet. We know that insurers would be able to double their surcharge on elderly customers. We know that it kills the ACA's insurance subsidies.

From this vantage point, it is easy to conclude that this is only about destroying one of the only comprehensive attempts at healthcare legislation our nation has seen. It is truly baffling. Care for the people who put you in office. Make the ACA better. Help people sign up for it. Work with insurance companies. Better yet, work together with experts to think up a better system.

Anything less is reprehensible.

Thank you,  
Dr. Amanda Fields

--  
Amanda Fields, Ph.D., M.F.A.  
Assistant Professor of English

[REDACTED]  
she/her/hers  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paula Dunn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill-a BIG NO

Passing a with little input from those directly affected or those who would be tasked with implementing it would be irresponsible. The both the insurance industry as well as healthcare providers have stated this bill would be a disaster. Not only is this bill dangerous for the nation's healthcare, it is potentially dangerous for the nation's economy as the healthcare industry makes up a large portion of the economy.

Pushing through a bill of this scale without input from the public and the industries affected is unforgivable.

Thank you for your time.

Paula Dunn

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robert McGee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare bill

My family relies on Medicare. Please come to a bipartisan agreement to improve ACA rather than repeal it.

Sincerely,

Robert and Katherine McGee

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sophia Roberts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony

Dear Congressman;

I utilize many of the Medicaid services and I do not agree with the cuts. With the health problems that I experience, I would not be able to manage and I would be worse off. These services have also helped me to become independent and living in the community on my own.

Thank you-  
Deborah Lalka

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Green [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Committee:

The Graham-Cassidy Bill is a potential death sentence for sick and vulnerable Americans. There is almost no adult alive who by now has no pre-existing condition, and the Graham-Cassidy Bill CANNOT GUARANTEE that states will continue to provide coverage for pre-existing conditions. This is unjust, immoral and cruel. Moreover, the fact that it is being rammed through the Senate without hearings and without Republicans working across the aisle is reprehensible.

It is time for a bipartisan effort to stabilize the ACA exchanges and mandate outreach to prevent spikes in premiums and lapses in coverage.

Graham-Cassidy must be defeated, and an overwhelming majority of Americans believe that.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Green

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** FeFe Applebe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Bill

Please do not pass this bill just to have something instead of the aca without even reading it! Please take the time and create a thoughtful bill that will be helpful and beneficial to the American people.

Fiorella applebe

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kirk Orlando [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

Please do not support the current health care repeal initiative, known as the Graham-Cassidy proposal. I have an autistic and bipolar son with a slew of pre-existing conditions. I would NEVER be able to afford his health insurance with this proposal as a small business owner trying to make ends meet.

The proposal dramatically restructures and cuts Medicaid spending, putting seniors, low-income, people with disabilities and other vulnerable Americans at risk. The proposal could allow insurance companies to dramatically increase costs for people with pre-existing conditions. And the proposal could harm millions by eliminating health insurance subsidies.

Please protect constituents like me. Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy proposal.

Thank you,  
Kirk Orlando

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Millen, Jennifer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Health care for all Americans is a right

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*Rather than stripping health care from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets and fixing the ACA. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.*

Thank you  
Jennifer millen md

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sonia Calderon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Medicaid cuts

Hi:

I live in Glen Burnie and have two kids with autism. The cut in the service for Medicaid will be super bad for us. I can't afford the medications and therapies. The help that we receive from the Medicaid is awesome. It will be sad and really awful to list the benefits.

Sonia C

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karen Kindle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham Cassidy

While the ACA can likely be improved, this is not the way to do it. In fact, this bill appears to be even worse than its predecessors.

It's hardly insurance, if pre-existing conditions (including pregnancy and advanced age) have enormously increased premiums.

To rush through yet another poorly conceived and inadequately researched bill is a disgrace.

The goal seems to be to repeal Obamacare, not to put together a sustainable health care system that will benefit US citizens.

Republicans need to take a page from the Democrats' playbook.

Set clear goals.

Collect data and gather input from diverse stakeholders.

Propose a number of alternatives.

Test their financial and human impacts.

Make a proposal that best supports the goals.

It's not rocket science. It's called being a professional.

Sorry, but this voter is losing patience with the incredibly flawed approach to this life and death problem.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** O'Laughlin, Kelli N.,M.D. <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** repeat Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As an emergency medicine physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.

Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.

Rather than stripping health care from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets and fixing the ACA. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kelli O'Laughlin

**Kelli O'Laughlin, MD, MPH, FACEP**

Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Harvard Medical School  
Research Fellow, Medical Practice Evaluation Center, Massachusetts General Hospital  
Attending Physician, Department of Emergency Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Faculty, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative

[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Barbara Staley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

I hope that my email is just one of millions you are receiving from loyal and concerned citizens urging you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to focus on one aspect of the ACA: the individual mandate.

Many people in the United States, maybe even some of you, regard the individual mandate as an affront to American values, freedom, individual liberty. In fact, my father feels that way, namely "the government shouldn't tell me what to do!" However, I don't understand how those same people don't regard higher costs for all of us to cover the uninsured as just as much a "government mandate". I would prefer for my government to be transparent and say that all citizens have to work and pay to protect and advance our values, and that means paying taxes, paying for healthcare, paying for car insurance, paying for things that would fall on someone else's shoulders to deal with if we each didn't take care of our share.

What about my freedom, as a responsible, insured citizen not to foot the bill (in the form of higher costs) for someone who thought he was invincible but got hit by a truck? What about the freedom of a contractor not to get stiffed when his client declares bankruptcy? Whose individual liberty is furthered when a baby ends up in the NICU because the mother had no access to basic, cheap prenatal care? I would much rather contribute to a stable, compassionate system that insures everyone than continue to watch my costs escalating out of control.

Health insurance happens to be one area in which compassion and economic interest are aligned. When the ACA was adopted, I believed my country was on the way to joining the community of developed nations in which universal access to healthcare is recognized as a building block of a stable, prosperous, modern society. I ask you to reject Graham-Cassidy and work together to improve, strengthen and extend the ACA.

Thank you,

Barbara Staley

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Window Live <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA ~ No repeal

Hello Senate Finance Committee,

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a nightmare for Medicare recipients.

It will effectively dismantle Medicare, leaving millions of elderly and disabled without coverage. It punishes large states which enhanced their Medicare programs under the ACA, while rewarding smaller states which rejected Medicare under the ACA. The Graham-Cassidy bill will raise insurance premiums.

According to a report by HHS, estimated annual premium surcharges would go up for pregnancy (\$17,320), for asthma (\$4,340), for diabetes (\$5,600) and lung cancer (\$72,980).

These are not small numbers. The negative consequences of this bill's passage would be devastating to individuals, families, local communities and the entire nation. Even the health insurance industry is opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill, claiming it would create chaos in the economy.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is bad for children, seniors, the disabled and women. It is bad for people with pre-existing conditions. It is bad for states. It is bad for the nation.

The only group that this legislation is good for is the Koch Brothers, a couple of un-elected old men who want to take our country back to the John Birch Society of the 1950s.

It is imperative that this bill is defeated.

Thank you  
Barbara Gowen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Erin McPherson [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham bill  
**Attachments:** Letter to appeal law limiting funding for disabled people.docx

**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon,

Please read and take to heart this attached letter. My oldest son is currently having to reside apart from me due to problem behaviors associated with his autism spectrum disorder and this is in addition to us receiving community supports. I have had to fight for several years to get any money to help my two children with ASD. Please, I am begging you, do not take these costly but very necessary benefits from them.

Sincerely,  
Erin McPherson

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Philippe Abiyouness [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Denounce the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I am writing to denounce my support of the Graham-Cassidy Bill. The bill is obviously a politically charged, appeal to Republican voters and would jeopardize the life and well-being of so many Americans. A healthcare bill should protect the people, not take advantage of them as the Graham-Cassidy Bill seeks to do.

Best,  
Philippe



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Donald Taylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate HC Bill

*From: Dr. Donald Taylor - A 50 year member Massachusetts Medical Society*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mark Latiker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill  
**Attachments:** SDC10015.JPG

Hello, my name is Mark Latiker and I'm a constituent in 53235. In 2012, my mother was involved in a workplace accident and required invasive surgery. Because of the Affordable Care Act, she was able to get the surgery plus get any medicine she needs to combat her chronic pain and depression. Without it, I fear that she would succumb to that pain and depression. The Graham-Cassidy bill is a potential death sentence for sick and vulnerable Americans. Please use every tactic available to defeat the bill. Graham-Cassidy is even worse than the BCRA. It destroys Medicaid as we know it, guts protections for people with pre-existing conditions and is a potential death sentence for sick and vulnerable Americans. It is reckless and immoral to ram through such profound changes without regular process and a full CBO score. It is wrong for America and its values. It's time to support a bipartisan effort to stabilize the ACA exchanges and mandate outreach in order to prevent spikes in premiums and lapses in coverage. Enclosed with this e-mail is a picture of my mother and my aunt (who also relies on the Affordable Care Act) with my grandfather, who had passed in 2010 because of cancer. My aunt and mother have always been both hard-working women and it would be a nightmare to lose them both because the reckless, unconscionable Graham-Cassidy bill.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Andrea Frierson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO, to the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Committee,  
32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state. If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill.

Yours truly,  
A Concerned Citizen  
Andrea Frierson

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Andrea Frierson

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Debra Sharkey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop the Assault on America's Healthcare

I do not support the latest GOP effort, the Graham-Cassidy legislation, to "fix" America's healthcare system.

The GOP needs to work with the Democrats to come up with a system that is TRULY in all American's best interest, not just the interests of the rich.

Listen to John McCain and Susan Collins - they are voices of reason in the sea of current GOP greed and cruelty.

Sincerely,

Debra Sharkey

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anne Kelly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** graham-Cassidy, do not pass!

I am 69 years old so covered by Medicare, but I implore you to vote against Graham-Cassidy. Cutting Medicaid will affect not only children and the less-well-off, but seniors as well. Those unable to see to their health care through the ACA if Medicare is cut will inevitably show up further down the line with more serious issues and worse outcomes. Please do not consider this bill favorably, please look at the costs to citizens' wellbeing and vote this down. Thank you,

Anne Kelly

[REDACTED]  
Roslindale, MA 02131

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rita Reid [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

As a veteran who served my country honorably, it is imperative that I, and all veterans, receive the best health care possible, as a promised benefit and as a testimony that the self-sacrifice of its former military members does not go unnoticed after service termination. This will encourage the younger generation to sign-up for military service without being summoned by a draft , to support the Commander-in-Chief, and uphold the Constitution.

Thank you,

Rita Forbes  
Veteran-E-7  
U.S. Army

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carolyn and John [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do the right thing for the people of the USA

People above Corporations and Party

I have two grand children a daughter and son in-law that rely on the ACA for their health care. It is important that they continue to have health care-on their own they would not be able to afford any comprehensive health care. Without health care their lives are at risk. They wouldn't go in when they need to go in--they will go to the ER and that will affect everyone's health care. They both work-pay taxes and are productive American citizens. My daughter works for a funeral home and is paid \$14.00 and hour-with no benefits. My son-in-law is trying to establish a small security business and has no extra money to buy insurance-all the money is going back into the business. Their housing is subsidized by his family and I buy things-like school supplies and school clothes- (Just so you all understand that is not like we are not all chipping in and helping this struggling family-they are not lazy people-drug addicted or undeserving). As a society when common health care gets to be too expensive-because of "profit" we need as a group (government) need to step in and do something about it.

I am 64 and hope to soon be on Medicare (hope that's not gutted too-can't image paying "for profit" insurance at an older age with a preexisting condition). That being said we have paid for private insurance for the last 10 years--it is by far our largest expense and going up steadily. The problem as I see it is Insurance companies are "for Profit" and why not charge and keep raising rates-someone has to pay for all that lobby work on Congress. The next problem Hospitals are for profit-so charging a \$100 for and aspirin--is just fine--have to pay for all those uninsured clogging up the ER. There are no consumer protections--after all it is "life or death" for the patient--one will PAY for life--even allow oneself to be robbed if it means life and not death.

I am a 21 year cancer survivor--I would not have survived if not for my company insurance--I am so glad that the ACA got rid of the "cap" because I was already at the top after surgery, chemo and radiation at the age of 43. I am not an unhealthy living person-I exercise-eat right-protect myself from the environment cancer agents as much as I can-don't smoke, don't drink-don't do drugs of any kind. I did nothing to cause my cancer. I am responsible with my bills and managed to save a retirement and pay for long term care insurance--my point being why would the government not support my health care and help protect me from the "profit" guys. (I do not support big tax cuts to Corporations either--trickle down has shown not to work. I fear if these economic imbalances continue we are looking at more unrest.)

It is hard for me to understand why other civilized Western countries can provide universal health care for their citizens and we seem unable or unwilling to do so. The only conclusion I can draw is that it is because "for profit" has enough money to buy Congress. I am not opposed to cutting money/business for the big Pharmacy and big Insurance to do the right thing for American.

The current thrown together REPEAL and DO NOT REPLACE bill is an embarrassment and points to corruption--apparently it is very difficult in the United States to do the right thing.

All I want is basic affordable health care that functions for all---Even I could write a better bill than this one. (Control the Profit guys--ACA needs a government option-some competition for the Profit Companies.)





**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Cain <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Many of my family's pre-existing health conditions would put us at risk for excessively high insurance premiums with this bill. While an insurance company can't deny us, they can charge whatever they want, which might make it unaffordable for our family of two self-employed entrepreneurs, one college student and one high schooler.

Please protect access and affordability for families like ours.

Lisa

--

Lisa Cain, PhD

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Debby Dinan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Block #Graham Cassidy -- RN in CT who had to retire after CA of Breast, Bilateral Knee Replacements and Bilateral Hip Necrosis complications from chemo. Now cannot work and depend on Medicare and Medicaid which happened after working 32 yrs!!! Where will I go? Who will now help me? PLEASE VOTE NO.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kelli Livermore <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Dear Members of Congress,

My son, who has a thyroid condition, 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, Kelli Livermore  
Tijeras, NM

--

May you be at peace,

Kelli

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tammy M. [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

VOTE NO on GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEALTHCARE BILL

WORK TOGETHER TO FIX OUR BROKEN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM -----  
NOT RECKLESSLY PERPETUATE IT AND ADD TO IT.

SOLVE THE PROBLEM - DON'T ADD TO IT

Our for-profit healthcare system has failed. This is why the ACA was instituted in the first place in attempt to circumvent our extremely high costs for healthcare and healthcare insurance to try to provide millions of Americans with healthcare that otherwise could not afford.

Senator Warren exposed Anthem Insurance company recently when they were appealing to congress for more government funds. Anthem (one of many current companies providing health insurance to Americans) made almost \$900 million dollars in profits in their second quarter this year and 54% of that was government funded (tax dollars). THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE AND A DISGRACE.

Corporate greed and healthcare-for-profit is what is wrong with our healthcare system.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill does no more than the free market did (before ACA) and adds to the cost of providing services by changing current system already in place and placing burden of implementation of new system by state. How much additional cost will that add to our healthcare costs alone?

The cost of insurance is lower when more people are insured. Period. Thus, the ACA Marketplace. If market is narrowed to individual states, then insurance companies will once again be at liberty to raise prices according to that particular state's demographics instead of spreading it out across a larger base of demographics (lowering cost).

ACA provides assistance to millions who cannot afford full insurance premiums. Graham-Cassidy DOES NOT.

ACA REQUIRES coverage and affordability for many millions of people with pre-existing conditions, but DESPITE EXCESSIVE PROFITS (i.e, Anthem) the insurance

companies continue to raise the prices for coverage out of reach for a lot of working Americans.

Graham-Cassidy requires insurance companies to offer insurance for those with pre-existing conditions, but falls short of requiring affordability. Thus millions and millions of people in America will be charged unlimited higher premiums that they cannot afford. --- This is exactly what was happening in the free market that led to outrageously expensive policies that were un-affordable for most Americans. THIS IS THE PROBLEM. NOT THE ANSWER.

MOST AMERICANS have pre-existing conditions of one form or another. Especially older and elderly Americans. Sicker and older Americans generally make less money and are struggling, and multi-millions will not be able to pay higher premiums for their necessary healthcare to survive and thrive.

Graham-Cassidy will not only be devastating to the lives of these millions of working people, but also to the work-force which will suffer greatly because these people cannot get the care they need to thrive.

Working People will SUFFER AND DIE and will fall into our welfare system because they are not rich and cannot afford to pay GREEDY insurance companies' BILLIONS in profits in order to obtain healthcare so they can continue to work and be productive citizens. This is the reality of the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Graham-Cassidy does not even attempt to solve the ACTUAL PROBLEMS with our healthcare system which ARE EXTREMELY HIGH COSTS and begin with GREEDY INSURANCE MOGULS' PROFITS.

Only way to fix our healthcare system is to ELIMINATE CORPORATE GREED/PROFIT. MANY COUNTRIES HAVE DONE THIS SUCCESSFULLY.

WORK TO FIX OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM TO BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA - NOT INSURANCE MOGULS AND BIG PHARMA.

MEDICARE FOR ALL is the only reasonable rational way to improve our healthcare system for ALL AMERICANS. Medicare is already in place, just expand it for ALL. Simple as that.

Tammy S. Madden.

|

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Chris Watkins [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Please sirs,  
Vote NO to this bill, use our American system to fix the AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Reau, Marcia Jane <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Senate Finance Committee:

Please vote "NO" on the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. This bill would put millions of people at risk for losing their healthcare coverage (people with pre-existing conditions, the elderly, children, people with disabilities and special needs, etc.). It targets the most vulnerable people in our society by gutting Medicaid. Our own governor, Governor John Kasich, doesn't support this bill. This bill will dramatically affect my son, who has autism, and my family. Every agency that has been able to look at this bill, including the CBO, doesn't support it because it will leave millions of Americans uninsured. My son and the American people deserve to be supported; not cast aside. PLEASE VOTE NO ON THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEALTHCARE BILL!!

**Marcia Reau**  
*Secretary II*  
Department of Psychology

[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
<http://www.utoledo.edu/al/>  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christy Dixon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

I don't support the Graham-Cassidy bill. Obamacare should be fixed and continued. Also I support politicians going on COBRA if they aren't reelected and let them live like the rest of America  
Christy Dixon, RN, MSN



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Theresa Schimmel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Health Bill

To the Congress:

I am opposed to this latest effort to do away with the Affordable Health Care Act by pushing a bill this latest bill by Graham and Cassidy that would strip thousands of their health care benefits. When will this nation recognize that health care is a right, not a privilege? We wish that Obamacare would have been in place when our son was chronically ill. Instead we went into deep debt. Congress should be looking for ways to make healthcare universal and affordable. Take profit out of it.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Schimmel

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Diana Bell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please IMPROVE, not repeal the ACA; I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

As Americans, my family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I cannot understand why both houses and both parties cannot work together to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I am an Army brat and I grew up with socialized medicine so I'd welcome "Medicare for all".

When Congress plays this win/lose game, the only ones that lose are the people who elected you.

Please do not just hurry through this ridiculous "states rights" legislation.

Please oppose this latest attempt to kill the ACA? Please improve it.

Thank you,  
Diana Bell, MD  
Angel Fire, NM

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lynn Hertzfeld [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 6:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate. No vote should happen on any health care bill until it has been thoroughly discussed and feedback provided by consumers, health care providers and insurers. This bill is being pushed through without the appropriate feedback and analysis. If we want a lasting plan, it needs to be inclusive and carefully analyzed.

Lynn Hertzfeld

19072  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Eva Kreisler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham/Cassidy bill  
**Attachments:** image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

Hello,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham/Cassidy bill. This bill will leave millions of people without insurance and deprive others of affordable care.

It is imperative that congress Return to normal order and work in a bipartisan manner in order to protect the future of this country.

Thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathy Slaughter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I object to Bringing the Graham-Cassidy bill to a vote. We need you to work on a bipartisan basis for a fix to the Affordable Care Act. Everything I read about this bill is unproductive for the people of my state and the U.S. It seems to be only a tax cut for the richest citizens.

Meanwhile, people who desperately need health care have theirs stripped away.

My husband is a cancer survivor, and we are over 55. We could not afford the premiums in a high risk pool. Additionally, maternal care and pregnancy prevention are cut. How do you justify that?

Please let this deadline pass and work with Democrats to deliver a compassionate and sensible health care bill that both parties can support. Let America be truly great.

Thanks,

Kathy Slaughter

Zip code 81504

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save Our Care

My students rely on #ACA for their lives. They have disabilities and rely on Medicaid to get them out of the house, got to school and receive therapies at school such as nursing, OT and PT. They also need to buy their medicines. This bill would ruin their progress and hurt them long term. It would defund CBOs and Hospitals and leave our students without necessary care in order to grow into productive independent citizens. It would mean teachers losing jobs, therapists in schools losing her jobs too. Special Education schools would be hit hard. Please fix ACA it's not perfect but it does save and help lives.

Luz Holling

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Angela Squires Root [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No on Graham-Cassidy Bill

I urge you to vote no on the bill to repeal and replace the ACA.

The provisions of the Affordable Care Act have been a Godsend to my family. We buy our plan directly from the insurer because we don't qualify for subsidies. But we are so grateful that we can buy insurance at all!

We are self employed and like so many millions of other Americans have pre-existing conditions that prevented us from buying insurance on the open market before the ACA took affect.

Please vote no on this bill and please start working with the bi-partisan committee formed to try to improve the ACA.

Thank you and God bless,  
Angela Squires

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anthony DiVincenzo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Hello,

32 Million Americans could lose coverage, radical change to Medicaid and diminished funding for every state. If you want to keep your campaign pledges start by keeping your pledge not to touch Medicaid benefits. Reject this bill.

Best,  
Tony DiVincenzo



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** cella Bennett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Your Bill is insulting

Not to mention will kill millions of Americans. Not 1 professional practice is backing your bill, it's so bad even insurance companies are speaking out. You did all this just to put more \$ in your pocket. You took a bribe from billionaires and WE ALL KNOW IT.

The GOP establishment as you know it will be destroyed in 18 election. We the people are done with this greedy, self serving party.

Good luck w/ that bill. Should it pass my death is on you.  
Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alejandra Lozano [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

To Whom It Concerns:

Hello. I am healthy and young--but just wise enough to recognize the perilous and temporary nature of such a state of being. I may get sick tomorrow. I may be injured in an accident. I may blink and find that 30 years have gone by, and that I've grown old and in need of medical care--yes, my family has some history of breast cancer. Beyond concerns for my own self preservation, I am currently pregnant and my son will need healthcare when he is born. Additionally, I have family members that are growing old and will no doubt require some assistance. I do not know how I would manage that cost on top of providing for my own family and especially if, God forbid, something should happen to me requiring healthcare.

The simple fact of life is: nobody can live their life without health insurance--it is either a death sentence or a path to bankruptcy and poverty. These things are not freedom. These are, in fact, antithetical to the rights endowed to us by our Creator.

And now, for full disclosure: I may not have voted for you. But I implore you to look past any political or even ideological differences that we may have. Please reject the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. There are simply too many unanswered questions with this bill--a bill that seeks to recklessly tamper with such an important part of the American economy and American lives. The bill is rushed and did not solicit any input from Democratic Senators that represent the interests of millions of Americans. Worse, the costs are not known as the CBO has not yet scored this fully, but industry leaders and experts have expressed deep misgivings about the contents of the bill.

It's true that the current healthcare system can be improved. But the effort to repeal the ACA is not motivated by such a noble goal. It is motivated by partisan or even personal disputes. I implore that you commit towards a bipartisan effort to find a practical solution that will bless the most lives instead of boosting the swollen coffers of the few. The eyes of America, the world, and history, are upon you now.

Best regards,  
Alejandra Lozano

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** James Bradley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony about the Graham Cassidy bill

I have read this bill. It is a terrible bill and a stupid approach to improving Obamacare that will endanger millions of Americans by removing their health insurance. Only senators from the 1% (i.e., all of them) whose families will not be affected at all would ever consider passing such a thing. It is a step backward for the United States. Every supporting senator should be embarrassed.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tonya Neavins <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 2:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA Repeal

To: ALL Whom Should Be Concerned

From: A Colon Cancer Survivor

**Background:** Diagnosed at the age of 40, underwent 6 months of extensive chemotherapy (12 rounds, 48 hours each round) and requires monitoring for the rest of my life by an oncologist. That makes me a person with a pre-existing condition.

**Family background:** 8 individuals have been diagnosed with colon cancer and 2 didn't survive. My mom didn't make it as she died at the age of 33 from colon cancer!!!

**Medical findings:** Family genetics shows WE are carriers of a hereditary genetic condition that causes colon cancer and other cancers known as Lynch syndrome. That puts us in a high-risk category requiring colonoscopy screenings much early than the age of 50.

My kids have all had colonoscopy screenings in their early 20's as a result and have had polyps removed that were tested, but thankfully weren't cancerous. But I ask you how many 20 year olds would even opt for a colonoscopy and be asked to repeat such screening every 3 years.

I felt that by providing you with a glimpse of why insurance void of pre-existing conditions was important, it may cause you to review the bill you're considering to assist you with understanding how detrimental such a law would be to individuals such as myself.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with any of you and discuss my concerns in greater detail as I know a short email message only scratches the surface. As a U.S. citizen I urge you to scrap this bill and consider the dissatisfaction such a law will create.

Please feel free to reach out to me to further discuss this matter.

Best regards,

Tonya Neavins

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Barshak, Miriam Baron, M.D. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Stand up for patients by opposing Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*Rather than stripping health care from millions of Americans, Congress now has an opportunity to take a bipartisan approach toward stabilizing the insurance markets and fixing the ACA. I urge you to take that opportunity and join me in opposing Graham-Cassidy.*

*Sincerely,  
Miriam Barshak, M.D.*

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:** Thornton, Edward R <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I totally oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

To the Senate Finance Committee:

We all know that the Graham-Cassidy bill would make America sicker again, but Republicans don't seem to care. At the very least there should be no vote on this deceptive bill until the CBO has reported on it. Your Committee should wait for the CBO report and then allow sufficient time for serious public discussion before voting on it.

Especially: whatever the proponents of this bill may say, the actual truth is that it attacks Medicaid so the wealthy friends of Graham and Cassidy don't have to pay a tax that to them is pocket-change. Medicaid is the lifeblood of keeping our society healthy. Medicaid should be seriously increased in coverage to cover the real needs of our people, both old and young.

Beyond Medicaid, we absolutely must keep the ACA and its eligibility to keep healthcare regardless of employer or loss of job. This has saved many people from loss of healthcare and thus from bankruptcy. It is our government's job to protect our lives in this way -- not just with guns and bombs. As with auto insurance, a mandate is necessary for health insurance because there are foolish people who do not want to have insurance. And like auto insurance, people who don't have health insurance cost the rest of us a lot of money, which comes out of our pockets as higher health insurance premiums for all the rest of us, to pay for the emergency and other care that the noninsured get at our expense.

After reading the details, I am now calling this Republican proposal the UNAFFORDABLE CARE ACT. Only a Senator who actually hates his constituents could vote for this pathetic travesty pretending to count as health care.

We all need medical care. Let's keep funding it fully and in the fairest possible way instead of sticking the hospitals and taxpayers with the costs of care for the uninsured. Which just makes everybody's medical costs higher. You can improve the ACA, of course, but it has to be made better, not worse.

I don't mind if you want to stop calling the ACA "Obamacare". Why not just pass a bill that officially changes the name of the ACA to "The Republican Affordable Care Act"? Just don't change the bill and the coverage, or make it better. Rational consideration of our public needs for health care would necessarily lead to something very close to the ACA anyways. We all know you cannot cut the costs of good health care — it's only a question of how do we pay those costs in the fairest possible way. Graham-Cassidy does it the worst way so far proposed.

Best wishes, Edward Thornton

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rich Corner - [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not pass this disastrous bill

This bill is not good for Americans and I can not imagine why any responsible congressman would vote for this

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David Faczan [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you about the proposed Graham/Cassidy Bill for changes to the ACA. This is not a good or decent bill by any measure, and its sole purpose is to give tax cuts to people who don't need them.

First and foremost I ask Congress to not hold a vote on this bill, one that will affect at least 1/6 of the American economy, without first obtaining a CBO score. How can you possibly vote on proposed legislation in good conscience without fully understanding how it will impact the lives of many Americans? Do you understand the egregious damage it will do to small towns in America where hospitals are the largest employer?

Secondly, I am extremely concerned about the language in this sorry excuse for a bill that allows states to loosen protections for pre-existing conditions. Millions of Americans will not be able to afford health care. Many more will face bankruptcy due to their medical bills. Do you seriously expect hard working Americans to have to choose between life saving treatments or death for their loved ones? What type of reprehensible, soulless individuals would want that?

From what I've read, this bill does not in any way bring healthcare to more Americans. It is in fact the complete opposite and it is predicted that upwards of 30 million will lose their existing coverage. That most if not every major medical association has come out against this bill is proof that this proposed bill is unnecessarily cruel and heartless, especially to the most vulnerable population segments of America.

Do not pass this bill. Instead, work to strengthen the ACA and stop this reprehensible trend of trying to erase the last eight years of legislative progress because there was a person of color in the White House, one who to this day continues to be infinitely more popular than its current occupant.

David Faczan



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elissa Hofelt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:43 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO ON THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

PLEASE DON'T TAKE HEALTH CARE AWAY FROM MILLIONS.  
**Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy Bill.**

Take care and vote to protect WE THE PEOPLE!!!!!!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sherry Shaeffer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because too many people will lose their health care, states that have expanded Medicaid will lose the ability to pay for that expansion, and people with preexisting conditions will be forced to pay prohibitive surcharges for their health care. The sick and elderly who rely on Medicaid will be left with nothing. This proposal has not been fully studied in order to understand its ramifications. It is being done with an eye to repealing Obamacare rather to provide the best healthcare for the American people. Please do the right thing and reject this proposal.

Sherry Shaeffer

19025  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sokol, Randi <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Hurt, Nikki (Markey); beth\_pearson@markey.senate.gov  
**Subject:** Opposing Graham-Cassidy bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*As a family physician I treat children and adult patients with all types of health conditions- asthma, diabetes, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/emphysema, depression and anxiety, and opioid addiction. When patients do not get the timely care they need, they end up in the emergency department and hospitalized for much more severe (and costly!) care. We do best to PREVENT diseases from worsening and SAVING MONEY by providing all patients with access to primary care early on. Also, I treat patients with opioid use disorder (addiction) with Suboxone and Vivitrol, helping them embrace a life of recovery and sobriety, get back to working, reunite with their families, and feel like a productive member of society. Without the ability to treat these folks, more people will be using drugs, overdosing, and involved in criminal activity.*

*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 listening. Feel free to be in touch if you have any further question. I LOVE advocating for my patients!*

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Randi Sokol, MD, MPH, MMedEd  
Associate Professor

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa Lieberman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I believe that every American deserves affordable healthcare. It is shameful that a wealthy country like ours does not guarantee healthcare to all of its citizens, and the Graham-Cassidy Bill is the WORST version of all the Repeal-and-Replace legislation to come through this year.

My father-in-law died from multiple myeloma in 1999. There are now treatments for the form of cancer he had. Patients are going into remission and can expect to live for many years, but only if they have insurance to pay for these treatments, insurance that does not penalize people with pre-existing conditions. How can our elected representatives deny life-saving treatments to any American?

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal and will not support any attempt to deprive people of decent medical care. I know that you are on my side and want you to know that I will work for your reelection.

Thank you,

Lisa Lieberman

Lisa Lieberman

01002  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rhonda Dasher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Since the first attempt to repeal the ACA the GOP has been secretive, gone around established protocol & had the President & Vice President threaten Senators and house Reps. The ACA is working and providing healthcare to Americans that previously had nothing. I have a brother and a sister-in-law that finally got ACA after my brother had a major heart attack & ended up with congestive heart failure. My sister-in-law went for a physical and found out she had stage 3 breast cancer! Healthcare is essential for our citizens to have a life & pursue happiness which is guaranteed in the Constitution. a healthy society contributes to a healthier and robust economy.

The GOP has never made an effort to develop a bi-partisan healthcare bill but the Democrats did. Obama was the ONLY president to put something in place that had been vetted by the medical industry, Dems, GOP, the finance office. There is NO LOGICAL REASON TO Tear apart the ACA. Trump wants to undo the ACA because he is a racist and has promised his base he would.

EVERY attempt by the GOP to kill the ACA has been protested by myself and every other American that understands the horrible outcome if repeal happened. I have a brother that would die. A brother in law that would die, a sister in law that would be at risk of dying and I HAVE TO FIGHT TO SAVE THE PEOPLE THAT I LOVE FROM A CORRUPT GOP THAT HAS SHOWN NO REGARD FOR DOING WHAT IS BEST FOR THIS COUNTRY, RATHER, THEY MAKE IT CLEAR THEY WANT TO GIVE THE RICH A TAX BREAK AND IF THE POOR CAN'T AFFORD THEIR HEALTHCARE, THEY CAN GO WITHOUT.

Every version of the GOP's bills to repeal ACA take more people off of insurance, take away protections for pre-existing conditions, strip healthcare for children and hike rates for the elderly! The cost keeps rising and benefits keep disappearing! The medical communities and providers do not support the GOP bill. it is worse than all previous versions which have failed with GOP Senators going against their party!

This fight by the GOP has nothing to do with Healthcare or saving money, it has to do with a racist attack to undo a legacy of President Obama- The Affordable Care Act because it covers more people than ever before and has the potential to transform into healthcare for all. There is a narcissistic person leading this country who holds his EGO higher than the health of this country. The 2016 election was stolen by Russia and handed to 45. America has rallied, marched, called, texted, tweeted, sent videos, visited their reps and I am BEGGING YOU TO KILL THE REPEAL EFFORT BY THE GOP! It will hurt this country and target the most vulnerable in our Nation; children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing conditions that will die without continued treatment!

This has been repeated by millions of people that want to save the ACA because we all know friends or loved ones struggling with a health issue. The Constitution promises that all are created equal and have inalienable RIGHT to LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. The GOP seek to take away our right to live by taking away a functioning healthcare system and put in its place a skeleton that is designed to funnel money for tax breaks to the rich 1% instead of keeping America healthy!

I appreciate the call for comments and I know you will get more than you ask for but please understand that WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED AND OUR NATION IS KEPT HEALTHY; KILL the GOP BILL & SAVE THE ACA!!

Respectfully,

Rhonda Dasher  
A VERY CONCERNED CITIZEN of the UNITED STATES

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marjorie Kehoe <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:41 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. It's obvious that the bill is no good since you are basically trying to bribe Alaska & Hawaii by letting them keep the ACA! Take a look at ho many medically related associations have come out against the bill. Listen to the numerous governors - R&D - that have vocally opposed this bill. Do not do this to your constituents. These are people's lives you are dealing with. Not everyone in this country is rolling in dough. If we can collectively (through taxes) pay to educate our populace, why can't we keep them healthy? We need an educated and healthy population to move this country forward. FIX the ACA. Don't repeal it.

Marjorie Kehoe

19067  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharon Lebeau <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

Sharon Lebeau

19046  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joanne Kissinger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Dear Sirs, your new healthcare bill is a disgrace. You should be ashamed of yourselves. History will remember who you are and what your motivations were. And your children and their children will be humiliated by your greed and arrogance.

Joanne Kissinger



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Crystal Worley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Please oppose the Graham Cassidy Bill that would strip millions of Americans from healthcare. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Crystal Worley

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Melissa Chapman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Proposed GCH Bill

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I must address my concerns about the latest GOP attempt to repeal and replace the ACA, the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill. This bill is being pushed through without the necessary openness, discussion, debate and CBO score that ANY bill should have before a vote. As an American, I am appalled at the lack of democratic process in Congress at this time.

I have numerous concerns about the GCH, and I will share just a few of them, which I hope you will consider:

1. While some states, like Massachusetts, have been successful at providing healthcare, others, like Texas, have been notoriously poor at it. Block grants given to the states will NOT guarantee that the people of that state will have lower premiums or the essential healthcare benefits necessary for higher participation and adequate coverage.
2. Women will disproportionately suffer under the plan as their maternity care will no longer be guaranteed, their out-of-pocket medical costs will increase, it restricts their access to reproductive care and Planned Parenthood as a provider, AND it could end private insurance coverage for abortions.
3. The GCH hurts women, children, and the disabled by cutting ACA subsidies and Medicaid.
4. The GCH does not guarantee coverage for pre-existing conditions. As a person with Rheumatoid Arthritis, which is a pre-existing condition, my monthly infusions to keep my disease managed, would be more than I could afford. Under your proposed plan, I would have to make the choice to pay a higher monthly premium (and that's only if my state decides to cover PECs at all and I can afford the higher premium), go bankrupt or forego my treatments and deteriorate until I am an invalid. I really don't like any of those options, do you? Question: Will erectile dysfunction be considered a pre-existing condition?

I could continue, but I hope these three points will inform you that the GCH plan should NOT pass. It does NOT improve on the current ACA. In fact, it HARMS average Americans like me.

My last point is this...

If the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over expecting a different result, then the repeated attempts (50-60?) to repeal and replace the ACA just to obliterate President Obama's name/legacy are the very definition of insanity. Instead, make the ACA better or start Medicare For All and put a Republican name on it. Won't that make you feel like you've really helped the people of America by ensuring that EVERYONE has healthcare coverage? Isn't that your goal? I hope and pray that it IS your goal and that helping the insurance and pharmaceutical companies is not your intent.

Thank you,  
Melissa Chapman  
Concerned American Citizen  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

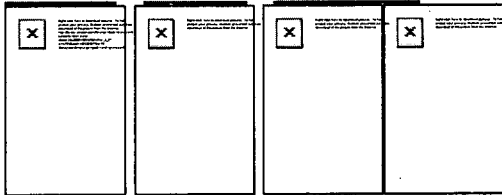
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**From:** Kimberly Garnick Giarratano [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** no to GC

Lifetime caps and gutting pre-existing conditions are the worst things you can do to the privately insured. I have good insurance....now. God forbid I got sick, or my husband got ill. Medical costs in the US are so arbitrarily inflated. Hospitals charging \$100 for Tylenol. It's easy for a sick person to rack up \$1M in health care costs. And then what? Only to have the insurance become worthless? To go back to applying for second mortgages when someone gets cancer? What a heinous system.

I don't care if the GOP members feel beholden to the Koch brothers or their donors -- playing politics with peoples' lives is cruel and callous. Grow a spine. Stand up for your constituents, not just registered Republicans, but everyone you represent. Otherwise, why are you in public service?

--  
Kimberly G. Giarratano  
*Author of Young Adult mysteries*  
**Website | Twitter | Newsletter**



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve the Affordable Care Act

Have a little humility for just a moment--a sense of actual service to the thousands of people you represent. This is about health care. Life and death. Put yourself in their shoes. Upgrade the ACA. Your haste to demolish legislation that took so long to craft says nothing good about your motives.

Martha Walden

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** LUCILLE NURKSE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA. The people of the United States need affordable reliable healthcare. Respectfully, Lucille Nurkse, [REDACTED], Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Kuhn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I have endured rheumatoid arthritis for about thirty years. In the last few years, the disease has progressed, and last year I had my lower spine fused because RA had caused all the ligaments holding my vertebrae in place to weaken, leaving me with a spine that curved repeatedly, causing leg pain, back pain, even seated pain. I, who enjoy long walks of several miles, couldn't walk half a block because of the pain. The fusion has given me the ability to return to walking and even modified gardening. But I obviously have a pre-existing condition, and Graham-Cassidy would undoubtedly cause higher premiums for me, perhaps even a cap on benefits. Not only that, but I care for an 85-year old music professor who lives on an extremely tight budget of about \$22,000 annually. Two years ago, he had open-heart surgery with some complications, but he is now living independently. He cannot afford his out-of-pocket costs for medication now, and I do not know what he would do without Medicaid. We are real people with real problems, trying to manage our illnesses as best we can. We NEED, like others, quality, affordable healthcare. I know many others who could tell similar stories.

I oppose Graham-Cassidy because it is a bad bill that will only make health care worse, if it is even available, for many. We require a bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. A majority of Americans are in favor of the ACA now; repeal will not make voters any more in favor of Republican agenda than individuals are now, and in fact, it may turn some voters away.

Please let's return to Senator Alexander's committee and let them produce a bi-partisan temporary stabilization and then work toward a bi-partisan bill that will ensure Americans get the health care we deserve!

Sara Kuhn  
[REDACTED]

Signal Mountain, TN [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Lynne Preston

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

San Francisco, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Linda and Philip Traynor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy! Protect our healthcare.

Finance Committee,

90% of Americans currently have health insurance in the USA whether through their employees, Medicaid, Medicare or the ACA/Obamacare. The highest ever in the USA! The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. In addition, there is a HIDDEN TAX IN THE Graham-Cassidy bill: a \$20 BILLION tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry.

To ADD INSULT TO INJURY, it has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore in which it has not paid a dime in U.S. taxes. THIS IS OBSCENE!

In 2009, the Affordable Care Act was reviewed by three different Senate committees, had more than 150 hearings. dozens of amendments by Republicans and 169 hours of consideration. This week's ONE hearing is an embarrassment, an insult and an outrage given the life and death matters that are at stake. This process is a sham and a travesty! It has NO CBO Score. It has been done in secret. Neither Democrats nor interested and knowledgeable organizations like the various medical associations, have been allowed to provide input regarding its impact.

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to REJECT GRAHAM-CASSIDY and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans.

It's also high time that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes! IT IS A BIG LIE AND UTTERS NONSENSE THAT THEY NEED TAX BREAKS TO SPUR THE ECONOMY! When they do pay their fair share of taxes CONGRESS MUST VOTE FOR ENSURING ALL THE FUNDING OBAMACARE MANDATED, FIX ITS FLAWS AND THEN ALSO VOTE TO UPGRADE OUR CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE!



THESE ACTIONS WOULD BE A REAL INVESTMENT IN OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE THAT WOULD PUT MILLIONS TO WORK. THESE WORKERS WOULD THEN SPEND THEIR MONEY ON THEIR FAMILIES' NEEDS AND THAT WOULD STIMULATE THE ECONOMY 100 TIMES MORE THAN ANY TAX CUT TO THE WEALTHY OR THEIR CORPORATIONS!

OPPOSE THE GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL.

FIX OBAMACARE. ENSURE ITS CONTINUED FUNDING. MOVE TOWARDS A QUALITY AFFORDABLE SINGLE-PAYER HEALTHCARE SYSTEM LIKE EVERY OTHER ADVANCED NATION HAS.

INVEST SENSIBLY IN OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE WITH COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!

WE NEED AND WE DEMAND HEALTHCARE FOR EVERY AMERICAN, ESPECIALLY THE MOST VULNERABLE.

WE ARE THE REAL WORKING FAMILIES THAT NEED IT!

STOP TAX BREAKS FOR THE RICH AND THE CORPORATIONS THAT WE KNOW ARE NOT ALREADY PAYING THEIR FAIR SHARE OF TAXES AS IT IS. THEY DON'T NEED MORE TAX CUTS TO BUY YACHTS, 3RD AND 4TH HOMES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, OR PRIVATE ISLANDS TO HIDE IN TO MANAGE THEIR OFFSHORE ACCOUNTS!

Linda and Philip Traynor

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Karla Frandson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
San Diego , California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jill [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: Trumpcare

Hello,

I would like to take this opportunity to implore you to act with integrity, honesty, and compassion and not let this catastrophic healthcare bill be passed.

I am a 35 year veteran of public education. I served the state of Indiana with distinction both on the state and national levels. I just retired and would expect with the Graham/Cassidy proposal that my healthcare costs would increase by 5 times! Is that the way you treat people who have worked hard all of their lives? This is a travesty!

My brother in law was born mentally challenged. He works 5 days a week at a workshop for people with disabilities and always has a positive outlook on life. He makes a wonderful contribution to this country! However, he relies on Medicaid to be able to afford the 16 different pills he must take each day! This bill would be devastating for him and our family as my husband and I will be his future caregivers. I know many of you say that you are pro life. I think a better term would be pro fetus. You wanted Jeff to be born, yet with this bill you would turn your back on him now that he lives! This is the height of hypocrisy!

I could list numerous reasons why jeopardizing the coverage of people with preexisting conditions is cruel, how "Essential Benefits" are critical to all families, and on and on.

Let me close by reminding you that you work for us...all of us! This Graham/Cassidy bill must not be allowed to go forward. The majority of the citizens in this country do not want it! We want healthcare to be a bipartisan endeavor that is publicly vetted, researched with input from the medical community, and is humane! Go back to the table! Surely you can do better!

Sincerely,  
Jill Hall

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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marion marshall

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Gilbert AZ, Arizona [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Scott Barlow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:04 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.

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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.

Scott Barlow  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Sunnyvale, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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chris oconnell  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Chicago, Illinois [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Richard Bryant  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tucson, Arizona [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sylvia Renteria [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Trumpcare

Do not pass a health care bill without careful consideration of whom it will hurt. The American people are not stupid. Unfortunately politicians make promises that simply don't make sense in reality . Communicate that as senator McCain has.

Sent from my iPhone



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Yvonne Holden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject the Graham Cassidy Bill!

My name is Yvonne Holden and I live in Wilmington, Delaware. My daughter, Callie, is 4 years old.

Callie is a happy, active child who loves to play outside, paint, and sing.

Callie also has autism, which requires speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Callie also has hearing, vision, and possible epilepsy issues for which she sees specialists at A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children. The therapies and treatments are expensive. One session of therapy alone can cost over \$100/hour. Callie receives at least 3 hours of therapy per day which is not paid for by her school district.

While my family is covered under Blue Cross and Blue Shield through my husband's employer, private insurance will cover none of the expenses relating to autism. Therefore, 100% of the cost of any therapy she receives are out of pocket. Additionally, private insurance doesn't pay 100% of the costs of Callie's non-autism medical expenses. Medicaid covers the co-pays related to those costs.

Because of Medicaid coverage, Callie is able to receive three hours of individual therapy per day from the Brandywine Center for Autism. My husband and I could not afford to pay for this on our own. Since she started receiving therapy there, she has gone from speaking single words only to speaking occasional sentences. She has begun interacting and playing with other children, something she has never shown an interest in before.

As I mentioned previously, Medicaid covers the co-pays that our private insurance doesn't cover for Callie's other medical issues. For example, one of Callie's eyes drifts and her eye specialist at A.I. DuPont Hospital says she will have to have surgery in January or March of 2018 or she will lose depth perception. The co-pay for that surgery will likely be close to one thousand dollars.

Callie occasionally has episodes which suggest she might have epilepsy, which is common in children with autism. Although during previous testing at A.I. DuPont Hospital, her neurology team was unsuccessful in observing any brain activity which suggests seizures, if such testing again is required in the future, again, the co-pays are extensive.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would hurt my child and family. I strongly urge Congress to reject it.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Holden

[REDACTED]

Wilmington, DE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carrie Hawks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony against Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My nephew was born with autism and digestive health issues. He has very high medical bills and no parent should be asked to forgo coverage for their children because of costs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Carrie Hawks

Brooklyn, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Birrell Walsh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No, please, on Graham Cassidy

Its impact is not understood. The rushed vote will result in charges the GOP is a bad steward, corrupt and incompetent.

Please, stop!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Frankie Rollins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy!

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Like you, I am a human in a fallible body. Rather than cite my specific issues, to which you could add many of yours, I want to beg you for mercy on behalf of all of the other humans in America who will not be able to staunch their wounds, cure their illness, soothe their pain. Only an arrogance or indifference would cause you to vote for a bill that shreds the possibility of healthcare for your citizens as this one does. Arrogance that no one you know and love will be harmed by this, or indifference because you don't care about the suffering of so many Americans.

I urge you to work towards a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rollins  
Tucson, AZ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** amy sweet [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** vote no

I am a New Mexican teacher in a Title 1 elementary school. It is imperative that we protect the Medicare coverage to help the residents of our state. Our state has the highest child poverty rate and it would be devastating to see any cuts to the health care benefits for our families. Children without proper health care are unable to come to school ready to learn. please vote NO on this bill to change Obamacare coverage.  
Amy Sweet

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** S Cope [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:15 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Regarding the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Finance Committee,

Please do not approve this Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill.

I am now a recipient of Medicare. As a young mother, I was hit by an underinsured driver on my way to work. The resulting injuries have permanently disabled me. I am married to a hard working Pastor and we do not have unlimited resources. I pray that you do not cut Medicare benefits. Because as a Pastor he is considered self-employed, it takes a huge part of my husband's paycheck just to manage his healthcare and our dental care. On top of that, we now care for his 88-year-old mother in our home. This bill would financially devastate us.

I know that the US needs to figure out a way to afford Medicare and I implore you to work with the entire Congress. It is going to take both Democrats and Republicans to figure this mess out. It is not about certain Congressional Re-election campaigns. I don't care that the Replublican Financial support is withholding funds for the current Congress. I beg you to figure out a way that we can take care of our citizens and treat each other with civility in the capital of great Country.

I am praying for you,

Sally A. Cope

--  
Sally Cope

[REDACTED]  
Algonquin, IL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah Rizzuto [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH Comment- Please Vote No

Dear Finance Committee:

My name is Sarah Rizzuto and I have been disabled since birth. I have a pre-existing condition called Cerebral Palsy. Many people think disability is something to lament or fawn over because I and all those in my vibrant disability community are so inspirational. Truth is, my life isn't a sad story or heroic a tale. I'm someone who does my best to make the most of my life. There are many reasons the Graham-Cassidy is dangerous to my wellbeing as well countless others I care about deeply, but I'll mainly focus on one.

A little background about me: I live in my own apartment and work at a local university here in CT as a part-time professor, I contribute to raising my young niece and, when I'm not busy grading essays or reading with her, I enjoy socializing with my friends. None of things would be possible without Medicaid. Through a waiver program, I hire, train, and sometimes fire personal assistants who help me manage every aspect of my life. These include getting out of bed, showering, eating, writing on the board in the classroom and driving my wheelchair-accessible van. The wavier program I mentioned is funded via Medicaid. Thus, the deep cuts proposed as well the re-structuring of Medicaid, which could be nearly dismantled by 2026 quite literally put my quality of life at risk.

I do not make anywhere near the amount of money I'd need to sustain my life as a purely out-of-pocket expense. In addition to funding my PAs, Medicaid helped pay for my power chair and walker, which both cost thousands of dollars. Medicaid also covers various appointments such as the eye doctor and dentist along with my bi-weekly allergy shots and six medications that I take daily. Without this coverage, the message this bill, and those who drafted it, send is that my life is expendable. Thank you very much for your time.

Best and be well,  
Sarah Rizzuto

--

Professor Sarah Rizzuto, MFA

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jim & Carol Bartley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My comment is very short and simple: do NOT throw out the ACA. Fix it instead. If you have consciences, do NOT strip millions of citizens of the health care they had with the ACA, and leave them out in the cold.

Sincerely,  
J R Bartley

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Roslyn Walker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:09 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

TO ALL U.S. SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

IF YOU DON'T STOP RIGHT NOW AND IF YOU CONTINUE ON YOUR PATH TO DESTRUCTION OF MY DEMOCRACY, I WILL IMMEDIATELY STIR THE CITIZENS, AKA HUMAN BEINGS, OF THIS COUNTRY TO IMMEDIATELY FORCE A BILL TO BE PASSED IN BOTH HOUSES AND SIGNED BY THE PERSON IN OUR OVAL OFFICE STATING THAT NO U.S. SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVE MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS NO MATTER HOW FEW OR HOW MANY TERMS THEY SERVE.

WOULD SERVE YOU WELL TO IMMEDIATELY PASS A BILL FIXING TIMEWISE, AND MONEYWISE THE RULES OF ELECTION SO THAT no contributions from any person/corporation, etc. and EVERY CANDIDATE HAS THE SAME \$\$\$\$ ALLOWANCE FROM THE U.S. TREASURY AND THAT BE MANDATORY FROM LOCAL TO FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

THEN, M-A-Y-B-E OUR DEMOCRACY WILL SURVIVE.

Roslyn Walker

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Marina del Rey, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jorgena Watson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Notice to the Senate finance committee,

I have learned that your committee is giving time to Americans to send in comments regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill. My family is among millions that rely on quality, affordable healthcare now provided through the ACA. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which will bring suffering to my family, my community, and my country.

Medicaid, access to health insurance without penalty for pre-existing conditions and Medicaid 2.0 have been critically important for my families' health care.

My nephew is disabled and my niece a single-working mom struggles to pay for his specialized medical care, and physical therapy. Without the support she receives from Medicaid and Medicaid 2.0, thank goodness Governor Pence agreed to sign on to the Medicaid expansion program for the state of Indiana, she not only has avoided medical bankruptcy but her son, nephew, is making great progress.

The last 3 months have been hell for my niece who is beside herself with worry about what kind of healthcare bill Congress will pass.

I know people, some of those people being my neighbors and my own relatives, rallied against Obamacare when it was passed. The problem is, they really didn't understand what they were complaining about. Most will now admit they thought Obamacare was really bad because that is what our Republican Congress members kept saying but now when it is explained that Obamacare is the ACA and Medicaid, they want to keep the program. They now understand what they could lose if the ACA is repealed.

My request is for a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Families need help. I do not know what my family will do if it is repealed.

Sincerely,

Jorgena Watson

New Castle, IN [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Darlene Jackson [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.

Darlene Jackson

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
sacramento, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Margaret A [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.

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Margaret A

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
East Haven, Connecticut [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Jennifer Waters  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tempe, Arizona [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Jason Wuthrich [REDACTED] m>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Jason Wuthrich  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Elkhart, Indiana [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Zachary Whittenburg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:08 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today as a tax-paying citizen of the United States, registered to vote in Illinois, who sees no reasons why any members of the Senate should support the Graham-Cassidy bill. While I am somewhat heartened by the degree to which this bill's profound shortcomings have been elucidated, I remain concerned that there is any chance of its passage.

To my knowledge, there are no stakeholders with any significant investments in the healthcare industry who feel the Graham-Cassidy bill offers any improvement over the Affordable Care Act. The extent and degree of opposition to this bill from physicians, patients, professional associations, advocacy groups, scientists, researchers, and the bipartisan National Association of Medicaid Directors makes perfectly clear the fact that it should not pass.

This bill has not been introduced or considered in any semblance of regular order. Furthermore, the few legislators who have called for its passage, most significantly Louisiana Senator Bill Cassidy, have done so using arguments which are easily dismissed as false. I am, quite honestly, shocked by the degree to which this bill's supporters are either:

- a.) unaware of the actual content of the bill, or
- b.) willing to brazenly misrepresent the bill and its highly likely effects.

Past efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act have already failed and the Graham-Cassidy bill demonstrates no effort to address the reasons why those earlier bills failed. To the contrary, Graham-Cassidy is according to many experts and stakeholders, an even more destructive and potentially catastrophic alternative to the ACA.

I furthermore do not see any value in pursuing passage of this bill merely because, as Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley has suggested, repeal of the ACA was a campaign promise made by many Republicans. To reiterate my point above, many of the reasons the American people have been given why Graham-Cassidy is necessary are outright lies.

We have played enough of these preposterous games driven by opportunism and greed. It is patently obvious that there is no great public will to repeal the Affordable Care Act. It needs the support and resources to succeed, and has earned its right to remain law.

I urge every member of the United States Senate to vote no on Graham-Cassidy.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can answer any questions about my position on this issue.

Quite sincerely,



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Adrienne Ross

[REDACTED]

Lamy, New Mexico [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Teri [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve ACA, don't repeal!

To Whom It May Concern,

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,

Teri Potratz

Santa Cruz, CA.

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Laura Stegman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

Hello,

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. With pre-existing conditions, my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Laura Stegman  
Los Angeles, California

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** John Kennedy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:36 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 several occurrences of malignant melanoma cancers and both total knee replacements. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

John M Kennedy  
Auburn, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Sarah Fox [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
**Attachments:** 2017-09-22 Graham-Cassidy Finance Committee letter - scanned.pdf

Attached, please find the testimony I wish to submit for the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, September 25, 2017, 2:00 PM EDT. I would appreciate your entering it into the records of the hearing.

Per your instructions, I am sending hardcopy of this letter via postal mail to the address on your web page; however, I am also submitting this electronic copy, so that it can be considered in time for the hearing and the vote.

Thank you,  
Sarah Fox, Ph.D.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Mary June Flores [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Anthony Wright  
**Subject:** California Fight4OurHealth Coalition Graham Cassidy Opposition Letter Submission  
**Attachments:** US Senate Finance Committee - F4OH Sign On Letter Opposing GrahamCassidy.pdf

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Fight4OurHealth Coalition and our 104 organizations, we are submitting the attached opposition letter to the U.S. Senate Finance Committee to be on the record of opposing the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. We write in strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal in the U.S. Senate, and we urge you to denounce this devastating and intentionally disproportionate attack on California and our health system.

Any questions or comments can be directed to myself or Anthony Wright, Executive Director of Health Access California.

Thank you,  
Mary June Flores on behalf of the Fight4OurHealth Coalition

--  
**Mary June G. Flores**  
[REDACTED] Health Access California

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [www.health-access.org](http://www.health-access.org)



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Christine Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NLN Written Testimony on GCHJ proposal  
**Attachments:** 09 22 2017 NLN GCHJ Sen Finance Testimony.pdf

Attached please find the written testimony of the National League for Nursing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Best,  
Christine

Christine Murphy, MA [REDACTED] | National League for Nursing | [www.nln.org](http://www.nln.org) | [REDACTED]



*In Your Community*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WORKSHOPS ACROSS THE US



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This email was scanned by Bitdefender

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

I urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans. It's also time that wealthy corporations pay 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 Connolly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chico, California [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

I have many friends and family members who rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It would deny healthcare (either outright or through outrageously inflated costs) to all of us with pre-existing conditions. Graham-Cassidy would lead to vast numbers of Americans losing their healthcare. This translates into higher costs to all of us in terms of increased use of emergency rooms, untold lost hours of productivity due to lack of care for preventable & treatable illnesses, and numerous deaths. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Julie Bussgang

Berkeley, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Ryan Sanders [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:59 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.

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Ryan Sanders  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Lawrenceburg, Tennessee [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Julie McLaughlin [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I'll make this brief- don't do this. Use the bipartisan effort to fix what is wrong but don't hurt TENS OF MILLIONS by passing this bill. The intention is only to undue something Obama supported. You can't honestly be this evil.

Julie McLaughlin

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Henchman, Anna A [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

My family, like those of millions of Americans across the country, depends on access to affordable health care. Please work across the aisles to make the ACA better rather than repealing it.

Thank you!

Anna Henschman

Cambridge MA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Tori Holder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Tori Holder  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Darrell Budic [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:06 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Darrell Budic  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
MADISON, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Rebecca Gerald [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

As a single mom to two teenagers, and with all three of us facing pre-existing conditions, my family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son was born with a congenital heart condition. My daughter has been hospitalized for Kawasaki's Disease and struggles with asthma. I have a concerning medical history including bilateral mastectomy and reconstructive surgery. Possible loss of affordable, guaranteed-issue medical insurance would ruin us financially, and would be devastating in regards to trying to maintaining our good health going forward. We very much need to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please put party politics aside and do what is right, what is needed, what is morally best and caring for the people of these United States.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gerald

Palo Alto, CA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Susan Burran [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a young, healthy family and I believe everyone had a right to affordable health care, and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Susan Burran

Chickamauga, GA

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Janet Stein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Support for bipartisan effort to improve ACA

To: Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing because I believe that the health, prosperity and security of our country depends on access to quality, affordable healthcare for all Americans.

I am therefore asking you to support sustained, bipartisan Congressional action to improve the Affordable Care Act.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, my young adult children knew that we could keep them insured as they made the transition into the workforce. They now have affordable insurance that gives them easy access to preventative care to keep them healthy. They know that they will not be denied future coverage because of past illness, injury, or family history. And they know that our own insurance means they will not be burdened by medical bills for their parents either.

The time has come to end these politically corrosive, one-sided repeal efforts, and instead come together to work constructively to strengthen the Affordable Care Act, and give all Americans access to affordable health care.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely,

Janet Stein

Cambridge, MA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

To whom it may concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a person who has pre-existing conditions. I was born prematurely with many birth defects that impact my urinary and digestive tracts and I had 30 operations by the time I turned 20 years old. In 1989, I hit my one million dollar lifetime cap before my first birthday. As a result, my parents entered me into a high risk pool in Connecticut. For the year of 1989, my parents paid \$15,000 for premiums and deductibles for just my healthcare alone, not factoring in their own healthcare. And that's also not factoring in the inflation of 29 years and how much that sum would be today.

Also, as a speech therapist, many of my students in the public school system rely on Medicaid in order to receive speech therapy. Cuts to Medicaid would leave children with speech and language disorders (who are working on the basics of communication and self-expression) unable to receive care that would make a world of difference in their education and in their social interactions. Because of these first hand experiences, I know the importance and necessity of affordable health care and I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Laura Mustard

Nashville, Tennessee

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Hi

My name is LauRose Felicity. I am retired at 67, having worked and paid into social security since age 18. After graduating from college, I have worked primarily as a public service attorney and teacher. Thus our retirement income is modest. My family and I rely upon quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My wife, Calla, has terrible complications resulting from a contaminated food-related injury. We are already paying over 1300.00 per month just for her and our healthy daughter's health insurance. (She is a senior in college.) We also need Medicaid care for our youngest granddaughter, who was born with a neurological problem. Nothing her single mother can do will pay for the occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy and neurological care without help. With help, Aubrey is starting to walk and talk at age 2. She must continue steadily with care to have a chance at life.

ACA needs to be strengthened, not repealed. Insurance companies and doctors cannot continue to elevate prices indiscriminately and price folks with pre existing conditions out of the marketplace. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
LauRose Felicity  
Brookings, Oregon

Also For: Opal Felicity and daughter, Aubrey  
Louisville, Ky

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Hanna Meisner-Bogdahn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not repeal the ACA!

To whom it may concern:

My family, my patients, and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a close relative that relies on Medicaid for her mental illness and a father who relies on Covered California for his chronic illness. Without the services that are available as a result of the ACA neither of them would be able to afford the coverage they would need to stay healthy. In addition I am a registered Nurse. I work in pediatrics and have seen first hand the difference that the ACA has made in the lives of children with illness and their parents that care for them. The last thing parents and children should have to worry about when facing illness is finances, and the ACA has been a step in the right direction in making this happen for kids and parents across the country. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Hanna Summers

San Jose, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Danelle Reid [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare, specifically through the ACA exchanges. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. In addition to several pre-existing conditions we must consider, several members of our family do not work for employers who provide health insurance. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to keep the exchanges in place and improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Please work with our Senator Amy Klobuchar on her bipartisan effort to do just that.

Sincerely,

Danelle Reid

Burnsville, Minnesota

--

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Kate G [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I support the ACA and Oppose Graham-Cassidy

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

I'm lucky in some ways, I'm a healthy person and very rarely get sick. But I've been in a car accident and required surgery; I have asthma; and apparently, the fact that I'm a woman who would someday maybe have children, all of these things could be pre-existing conditions that could cause me to lose my healthcare depending on the opinion of the state I live in. Lose healthcare even if I "do everything right" according to the cold and indifferent expectations of some politicians that deem some groups of people must prove their worth beyond any doubt while other groups of people get a pass.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Congress has, according to rumor, worked together in the past and I believe they can do it again.

Sincerely,  
Katherine Garrigan

New York City, New York

**Katherine Garrigan**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---  
NOTE: No trees were killed in the sending of this message, but a large number of electrons were terribly inconvenienced.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Dimitri, Dennis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** In opposition to Graham Cassidy

To the Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. In Massachusetts we have been leaders in working hard to reduce the number of uninsured citizens and improve their well-being. 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 at risk – especially those most vulnerable including young families, the unemployed, and the poor.

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. We need to understand access to health care is a basic human right, and stop playing political games with it, and instead build upon the gains made in recent years.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Dimitri MD, FAAFP  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Kate Thibodeau [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 3:03 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** upcoming health care vote  
**Attachments:** PastedGraphic-1.pdf; ATT00001.htm

The cost of uninsured people & the hospital losses everyone pays for, the hospital closings, the exorbitant drug prices, the US infant mortality rate and the lack of competitiveness around the world for US corporations far outweighs the cost of Obamacare. Please don't pass this bill. Where is the information we all need to see? Why are they hiding it? This bill so wrong on so many levels!!!!

Kate

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Pamela Carlson [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

Many of my family and friends rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a friend who was denied insurance before the ACA because she had a pre-existing condition. She was finally diagnosed with depression, went through a divorce and then could not get insurance. I have other friends who have children where they rely on Medicaid because of severe life long health issues. I would be thrilled to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Pamela Carlson

Rosemount, Minnesota

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** linda brower [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

linda brower  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
racine, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Jean Renshaw [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Jean Renshaw

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
San Diego, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Sandra Baker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Sandra Baker  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Gilbert, Arizona [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Nathan Carroll [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Nathan Carroll

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Minneapolis, Minnesota [REDACTED]

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

---

**From:** Kami Seligman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposed to Graham-Cassidy

This bill is an economic and humanitarian disaster and must not pass. No one except for most Republican Senators and some Republican governors has expressed any support for this bill. All major organizations of doctors, nurses, patient advocates, hospitals, insurance companies, and unanimous state Medicaid administrators have said that this bill is terrible for this country and its citizens. Have real hearings and listen to those who understand the system and have experience! Get a full picture of its impact. Then vote no!

This goes way beyond repealing Obamacare, and would make America the cruelest wealthy nation on earth.

Dr. Kami Seligman, Scarsdale, NY

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Mitchell Orman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Mitchell Orman  
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** sherron norlen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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sherron norlen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
lavinia, Montana [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Sarah Cantrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:34 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham Cassidy and you should too!

My family relies on quality, affordable health care. We're lucky. In 2013, I got a full time job with benefits that included health care coverage. I was lucky, but I still remember 2011-2012 when I had no health care at all. I still remember customer reps from Kaiser and Blue Cross turning down my applications because of pre-existing conditions like depression, anxiety, and autism. They weren't doctors; they hadn't even read my case history. And yet, they had the right to deny me coverage I was willing to pay for. It was humiliating, but not nearly as devastating as the Graham Cassidy bill.

Graham Cassidy will leave 32 million Americans uninsured. It will cut Medicaid and remove protections for people with pre-existing conditions. My friend, SuAnne, has MS. Does she \*deserve\* to lose coverage because of a medical condition over which she has no control? Does she deserve to be reduced to her diagnosis that ignores and erases her personhood? No.

Graham Cassidy will also charge the elderly--our nation's most vulnerable citizens--5 TIMES what insurers charge younger customers. It will decrease coverage for children and people with disabilities. It will allow insurers to raise rates post-diagnosis, which is both cruel and inhumane. Imagine having to cope with the increased care a new diagnosis requires AS WELL AS more expensive care. This is unacceptable.

Graham Cassidy adds insult to injury. You must oppose it with all your vigor, with all your faith, with all your courage. Unless and until Congress is willing to adopt the same health care program for its own members that it imposes on the American people, you cannot legislate away our right to life.

I support a bi-partisan, regular order, transparent efforts to shore up and improve the ACA. I want open hearings with plenty of time for public comment. Millions of Americans depend on the ACA to stay alive. Vote no on Graham Cassidy.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Sarah K. Cantrell, Ph.D.  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

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

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**From:** Rhoda [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:32 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Proposed Graham-Cassidy Bill

The majority of the American people oppose this bill, which was devised under the most cynical of motives.

1. The GOP is responding in a cowardly fashion to the extortion of the Koch brothers, who have threatened to cut off funding to the GOP if the ACA is not gutted. This is not governance. This dishonors the oath of office which our representatives take. This is extortion, at the cost of many American lives.
2. GOP supporters have offered the weakest of excuses: that since they have campaigned for gutting the ACA, they "have to do it" no matter how dire the consequences for citizens, how many hospitals are closed, or how many lives it costs.. This is not governance. This is an internal attack on American people.

Responsible governance would fix the Affordable Care Act, which is a good start and has kept hospitals open.

Rhoda Mack  
New York

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lynne Keating [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:31 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

Many friends and family of mine 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,

Lynne Keating

Marlborough, NH

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marceline Frink [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

I want quality healthcare like I have now. I use a walker and wheelchair to get around. I've been chronically ill for 42 years. Without guaranteed pre existing disease coverage I would likely deteriorate quickly, as would many Americans. Every family has at least one member with a pre existing disease. All 3 members of my family have them.

Any good healthcare system has to treat all patients equally, no matter their issue.

Study Canada, France, heck even Cuba for ways to make healthcare for all at no cost. Many countries have made universal healthcare work very well. (Watch Michael Moore's movie about this). We are America, we can figure it out. I've used healthcare in other countries, including Turkey where I was able to walk into a pharmacy, describe my husband's ear infection symptoms and get medicine immediately. He got better and was able to enjoy our trip. The same in Mexico. Cheap too.

Think outside of the box. We can have free healthcare in this country! At least just fix the ACA which is working for millions.

Thank you,  
Molly Frink  
California

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ann Helt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Senators:

I vehemently oppose this bill. Rather than improve needed parts of the ACA, it worsens health benefits for Americans. It appears driven by lobbyists and Koch interests and not by the best interests of Americans.

Please do not vote for it. Instead work together, Democrats and Republicans, to improve the ACA. It is pathetic and immoral that America is the only 1st world country to not guarantee quality health care. Please work to improve Americans' lives, not corporations' profits. I demand better health care.

Mrs. Ann Helt  
Downers Grove IL

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Jameson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Keep the ACA

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

Sincerely,  
Nancy A Jameson  
Norwalk, CT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Doug Newton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Obamacare

Dear sirs,

Change for its own sake is rarely helpful. If you're going to change Obamacare, please make it a change for the better. This bill is not a change for the better.

I am now in support of a single payer system.

Thank you.  
Doug Newton  
Franklin, MA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary Veerkamp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:10 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham- Cassidy Bill

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

My family is thankfully healthy at this point in time. However, my husband has two past cases of malignant melanoma, the first occurring in 1983, while he was still a teenager, and the second in 1998. Before the Affordable Care Act, his insurability was constantly a concern, and changing jobs or moves to position ourselves to pursue further education or positions of advancement to achieve the American Dream were more risky than for those not in our precarious insurability state, since gaps in our health insurance coverage could mean that we were no longer insurable at all. Since we have not had to worry about pre-existing condition exclusions, we have been able to make decisions for our family that included a significant move for my husband to pursue (and complete) an MBA and find work that he finds deeply rewarding. Our life changed significantly with the security of knowing that he (and thus, our whole family) could not be denied health insurance or be subject to exorbitant premiums because of the pre-existing condition.

Given our situation, and the similar circumstances of millions of Americans, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, rather than a repeal. So many people will be negatively impacted by a repeal.

Sincerely,  
Mary Veerkamp  
Keene, NH

*Mary Veerkamp, Ph.D.*

*Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing, there is a field. I will meet you there. ~Rumi*



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mark Hoesly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No on Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have an existing chronic health issue that could make getting new insurance under Graham-Cassidy very difficult for me. I also understand that the effects of this proposed bill would only worsen over time. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mark Hoesly

Norton, MA

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elise Coleman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare, so I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. This partisan bill is ostensibly "giving states freedom," but freedom for what? To go back to allowing Insurance companies to deny payment to cancer victims? To allow big Insurance companies to hike up premiums onerously like they did before ACA? To cut medicaid, ensuring poor people have no healthcare and burden emergency rooms: costing states and companies alike? The CBO hasn't even analyzed this bill, and it looks like 32 million people may lose their health care. At the very least, we must see what the numbers show.

Of course, of what we do know about the bill, not one healthcare organization supports it; in fact they're all vocally OPPOSED to Graham-Cassidy.

So who finds this acceptable? Is your family disposable, because apparently, according to this bill, my family is. They've worked hard for this country all their lives, and lest you think they're working poor, or even working class, they're not. They're affluent, and they will still lose the ACA plan that has been affordable to them thanks to the requirement of offering insurance to those with pre-existing conditions. What 60 year old, who doesn't yet qualify for medicare, doesn't have a pre-existing condition? NONE. NOT ONE. Should they not be able to get healthcare if they work for themselves, you know, as small business people?

So this begs some questions: how many people should be at the mercy of insurance companies? how many babies are you okay with killing because they can't afford a \$100,000 stay in the NICU? How many people with cancer will die without treatment because you've stripped away the pre-existing condition clauses, the lifetime caps and the individual mandate? The question you must ask yourself is how many people can you accept dying unnecessarily because you wanted a political "win?"

For all the GOP's talk of being a "Christian nation with Christian values," it seems the GOP has forsaken the poor, has forsaken the meek, and is determined to inherit the wind. They have forgotten the virtues of benevolence, compassion, and mercy. There is nothing Christian about this policy. Enough already.

Sincerely,  
E. Coleman  
New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Vasilias Emmanouilides [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:04 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. My friend with a severe disability is very concerned that if any part of his healthcare coverage is reduced, he will have to decide between living expenses and having the medical care and medication he needs daily.

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,

Esmeralda Marquez  
Oakland, California  
Voter

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Duane Berry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, **I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.**

Even though I have consistently worked a full time job, affording health care premiums as well as the costs that insurance won't pay, including the co-pays continues to be difficult. My family lives paycheck to paycheck and we don't live an expensive lifestyle by any definition. My senior citizen father has recently been diagnosed with cancer and depends on his medicare benefits. He is also a military veteran as are many in my extended family. The Graham-Cassidy bill would result in putting healthcare out of reach of my family.

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

Health and peace,  
Duane Berry

[REDACTED]  
Nashville, TN  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Liz Stone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Stone, Mill Valley CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Julie Friedman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA needed

My patients, my elderly relatives, my friends, in fact, people all over this country, 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,  
Julie Sandler,  
New York, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Connie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:12 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy opposition

My grandson has cystic fibrosis. His parents are educators with modest salaries and the lifetime caps for their son's care would quickly bankrupt them.

How, in good conscience, could anyone support the "healthcare" bill as outlined by Graham-Cassidy? Condemning innocent sick people to death does NOT represent what our country values.

I beg you to reform the Affordable Care Act, not repeal and replace it. Show compassion for those less fortunate--oppose Graham-Cassidy.

Connie Finnegan

[REDACTED]  
Middleton, WI [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Eileen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:09 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that my son, an opiate addict, is **receiving** a monthly shot of Vivitrol and priceless counseling that he would not be able to afford without the help of his Medicaid. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Eileen Andrews

Oxford NY



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jordana Amato [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:11 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment on ACA repeal

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.

Sincerely,

Jordana Amato

Northampton, MA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachel Daley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposed to Graham-Cassidy

I am writing to express opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a job that requires that I have access to medical records of the clients I serve. Through my work, I have learned of many, many Americans in their 50s and 60s who are ill now because they were not able to treat their chronic conditions like diabetes and hypertension for years when they were younger because they couldn't afford to see a doctor, let alone afford the medications that would have controlled their illnesses.

These people are the working poor. These are people who have worked full-time jobs and then some to support their families, for their entire lives.. They were not able to afford healthcare for themselves.

Now, for many of these clients, their conditions have progressed to a point of no return. Some of them have serious heart conditions which prevent them from working. Some of them have retinal disease preventing them from driving because of their untreated diabetes. Some of them have mobility issues or worse, when they could have many more years of productive, healthy, happy life ahead of them if they had only had access to affordable health care when they were younger.

Please do not doom another generation of Americans to a life of early disease, needless pain, and costly disability by ending the Affordable Care Act.

The American people are not concerned about Republicans keeping a vague promise about repealing Obamacare when access to health care is on the line. Americans are concerned about their families, their communities, and being able to lead healthy and productive lives. The vast majority of Americans are asking for a bi-partisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please do the humane, sensible thing. Please do not repeal the ACA.

Sincerely,

Rachel Daley  
Charlotte, VT [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carolyn Treadway [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DON'T PASS the Graham-Cassidy bill!

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer and underwent a lumpectomy, chemotherapy, radiation and 5 years of hormone therapy. Thank God I have successfully lived over 16 years cancer free! If the Graham-Cassidy bill passes, I will be one of the millions of Americans who could be excluded from acquiring affordable health insurance because of this successful but pre-existing condition. That does not serve Americans like myself or the economy well.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Please use your effort to control the obscene profits of insurance companies, big pharmaceutical companies as well as others who are profiteering from the exorbitant rise in medical care costs!

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Treadway  
Faribault, MN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** brittanymanettehall [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

As a 7 year survivor of leukemia, I now has a pre-existing condition, and requires annual coverage for blood tests to make sure that I am healthy, so I can continue to work hard and raise my family with my husband, who also has a pre-existing condition due to a thyroid condition. I would like to express the importance of a a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

We have to work together ad this is the only way to find a solution for, We, the people.

Sincerely,

Brittany Hall  
Chino, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Cole [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:00 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

Sincerely,  
Susan Cole  
San Francisco, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Lee Luskin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

**Dear Members of the Committee:**

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare as both providers and users of health care.

My husband is a family practice physician in rural Vermont. Without the ACA, Medicare and Medicaid, most of his patients would not be able to access his services. If Graham-Cassidy passed, not only would these patients be without access to healthcare, but Grace Cottage Hospital, Vermont's smallest hospital and Townshend Vermont's largest employer, would have to close its doors. Currently, wonderful government programs (Critical Access Hospital & Rural Health Clinic) all make this extraordinary hospital thrive. It was recently named one of the top twenty Critical Access Hospitals in the country for patient satisfaction. The ACA has made it possible for more people to receive care at its primary care practice, including many suffering from addiction illnesses.

It is important to remember that when people have no coverage, medical facilities and all their economic engines, also suffer. **In addition to harming American citizens, gutting the ACA would hurt the American economy.**

My family also requires health care because we are human. Thanks to the ACA, our adult children were able to stay on our health insurance policy until age 26. Few jobs now offer health insurance, especially to those just entering the job market. Furthermore, tying health insurance coverage to employment is a deterrent to innovation. Workers often feel compelled to stay at a job for the health insurance, even when their interest and productivity in that job wanes. Providing health insurance coverage that people can take with them, regardless of their insurance provider, allows for a more engaged and innovative workforce.

Finally, a healthy population is a population that can be engaged in economic growth and self-government.

For all these reasons, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My experience as a health care administrator, as a human being, and as an American makes me believe that a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, is in the best interest of our country.

Sincerely,

Deborah Lee Luskin

Newfane, Vermont

**Deborah Lee Luskin**  
[REDACTED]

*Advancing issues through narrative; telling stories to create change.*  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Emma Willenborg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill

A productive and fair society relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I believe that all human beings have a basic right to lead healthy, happy lives, and this is also a principle our country was founded on: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Emma Willenborg

Washington, DC

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Cathy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Greetings,

Please be aware that the citizens of our country pay attention and are aware of the motivation behind the un-ending quest to purge our country of anything with President Obama's name. The pettiness of this came to light when Senator McConnell vowed to block every piece of legislation presented by the Obama administration leading to the need for executive orders. It is very clear the personal animosity and predijuce felt towards our first African American president far out weighed the responsibility to legislate for the good of our country.

We are now faced with an healthcare and economic crisis. Though not perfect, instead of making changes to "Obamacare" the current Congress, and Executive branch have sought to sabotage it. Again a reflection of the hatred of President Obama.

Figure it out and do your job. You are going to have the suffering and death of Americans as your legacy. Let all your "Christian" members remember "whatever you do to the least of my brethren you do onto Me".

Fix the Affordable Care Act. Fund the exchanges. Stabilize so the big insurers don't pull out leading to choices and competition.

Then move on to jobs, education and infrastructure.

You'll sleep better.

Catherine Donovan

[REDACTED]  
Milford CT [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ravit [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern over the possible repeal of the affordable care act. My adult son relies on quality, affordable healthcare in NYC. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. He benefits from care he can afford as he does not get benefits through his employment. Furthermore, he is a colon cancer survivor and would not be eligible for care if the exclusion of pre-existing conditions had not been enacted as illegal across the board. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. There is more to do to make it more competitive and more affordable, but it is a step forward in the American democracy.

Sincerely,

Ravit Avni-Singer

New Haven, CT



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deborah Holbrook [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:06 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** repair not repeal

I would like to see the Graham-Cassidy bill defeated mostly because the full impact has not been studied (i.e., from the Congressional Budget Office). Please defeat this last-ditch effort. Deborah Holbrook, Sparta, TN

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Michaela Copenhaver [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare comments

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

I am an Olympic hopeful, in a sport with very little financial backing, and as such must support myself while training full time. Access to Connecticut's Husky Health program (i.e. Medicaid) has been crucial to being able to receive the care I need to continue training and pushing my body to its limits.

I am not the only Olympic hopeful who has relied on services like this—much of our Olympic team spends years barely scraping by and relying on government aid. Our continued success at the Olympic games is due in part to programs like Medicaid.

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

Sincerely,  
Michaela Copenhaver  
New Milford, CT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:08 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care bill

I and my family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. We have pre-existing conditions that would not be covered or would cause our insurance premiums to become unaffordable if the Graham-Cassidy bill is passed. 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,

Michele Braun  
Indianapolis, Indiana

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan Kanezo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:05 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** info@pahealthaccess.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because ....In late 2012 I was in a motor vehicle accident while I was driving into work. Another driver on the road wasn't paying and because of him, my life changed in a split second. At the time of the accident I was employed as a Registered Nurse in the emergency department of a large hospital. After my FMLA leave was used, it was evident I would not be able to return to my job as I had previously done so my employer wished me well and good luck in my future endeavors and promptly terminated me. At this point, my car insurance medical benefit of \$10,000 has been used. I was able to continue my health insurance through COBRA at a very expensive monthly cost and I had an employer sponsored LTD plan which paid 60% of my salary for 2 years. I was one of the lucky ones. Once the car insurance medical benefit was used, which didn't take long, I had out of pocket medical costs to contend with which were unaffordable but I found a way to pay them. I needed to see a neurosurgeon. Imagine what if felt like when I discovered that the neurosurgeon I wanted to see refused to see me because my injuries were sustained in a car accident. I was shocked. How could any healthcare provider refuse to see a patient in need? To this I will just say, I live in Pennsylvania and leave it at that for now. Because of my vey expensive COBRA plan, there was only one neurosurgeon who would see me. He didn't offer much hope. In fact he shipped my off to a different specialist and washed his hands of my case. Before he did that, he asked me what my marital status was and since I'm divorced he politely suggested I may want to find a husband because the odds of my being able to do the kind of work I previously had done weren't good and if I had a husband I could stay home, enjoy my grandkids and not have to worry about any of this. His words, not mine. I went on to see several different medical specialists and I must say, my experience as a patient was the worst of my life. Our health care system is fine for people who have "regular" jobs and those who are wealthy enough they can afford the costs. In a matter of seconds, I went from a person with a regular job, to a loser who must be too lazy to work. And yes the bias is real. I experienced it first hand. I won't bore you with all those details. Remember in 2012 the ACA was still in its early stages and the healthcare marketplace was not up and running. When I realized I was not getting the appropriate care due to my COBRA insurance, I applied for a new health insurance plan through the private market. I can't remember the exact date but it was sometime in the summer of 2013. Needless to say, I was denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition. As it turns out, the state of PA didn't feel the need to protect patients with pre-existing conditions. I believe the marketplace opened in October of 2013. I was hesitant at first. I did however understand the law said my state insurance commission had to make sure I would not be denied coverage. I did my due diligence and I eventually purchased a plan via the healthcare.gov marketplace. I had excellent coverage for a reasonable price. I say reasonable because it still cost more than what I would have paid through an employer sponsored plan, but less than the COBRA coverage I had. After a year of suffering and trying to advocate for myself and navigate a broken, biased, for profit healthcare system, I was able to see a neurosurgeon. I was able to get the surgery I needed and spent the next year of my life recovering. After that year, I felt well enough to try working again. Keep in mind I will never be the same as I was before the car accident. My body can't handle the long hours and brutality of acute care nursing in the emergency department. I tried. It just doesn't work. Don't tell me to tough it out. Mind over matter doesn't work in my case. I found a job as the nurse at my local high school. Sounds great, but my local school district doesn't value my skill set and critical thinking skills like an acute care facility. In fact, they don't pay me a living wage or provide any healthcare benefits. I keep working because I'm contributing back to the community and providing what I consider to be a valuable service, but I rely on the ACA to purchase my health insurance. There are flaws in the ACA. My premium costs are too high for my income level. My co-pays and deductibles are too high. However, my right to health care is protected. My state insurance commission can't say we don't have to cover you. For all the flaws in the law, I know if something

happens to me, I won't be bankrupted. If Graham Cassidy would pass, I don't care what the GOP talking points and spin are, I am 100% certain based on past experience, that my home state won't have the money to protect me. Due to age and pre-existing conditions, I will be priced right out of the market. Healthcare, although it may be available, won't be an option for me. I'll have a few years where I'll be uninsured until I'm eligible for Medicare and a lot can happen in a few years.

My story is just one of millions. But what is the greater good here? For the millions it's the question of healthcare as a human right versus a privilege for those who are deemed worthy by their employment status or their individual wealth. We need to move forward, not backwards. Healthcare should be about patients before profits. It's a human right and is about saving lives not allowing people to die because they can't afford healthcare. Please stop trying to trade lives like they are commodities. It's not working. FIX the flaws in the ACA , stabilize the markets, and let's keep moving forward and working on better solutions.

Susan Kanezo, RN, CEN

his care, and advocated for him for 48 years. Her death left him an orphan without a home. I took him in, as I always had imagined I would do. Although I knew my brother had threatened suicide several times, I didn't recognize he had mental illness. I didn't know that he suffered not just from Cerebral Palsy, but from severe depression mingled with paranoia and delusions. He resisted moving in with my family; he objected to every suggestion I made; he thought I was spying on him; he refused to see a psychiatrist; he locked himself into the bathroom; he called the police on me; he turned my life into a living hell.

I finally succeeded in getting him to a neuro-psychiatrist at the famed Menninger's Clinic, then in Topeka. She suggested he move into a group home run by the clinic for schizophrenics. Although he did not have that illness, paranoia and depression combined with the mental limitations of the Cerebral Palsy were producing schizophrenic-type symptoms. The home was set-up to help those with mild schizophrenia develop life-skills so that they could eventually live independently. It also provided medications along with continual monitoring by nurses, psychiatrists, social workers, and psychologists, as well as highly trained live-in staff. The stay at Menninger's transformed my brother into a kind man whom everyone likes. Living in a group home, no longer isolated from others, and with the proper medications, he became the sweet person I remembered as a child.

After six or seven months, Charles was discharged into the arms of the State of Kansas. Menninger's concluded that he could only function in a group home setting; the State agreed that he was developmentally disabled and qualified for help. I was steered to the Sedgwick County Developmental Disability Organization which provided me with a targeted case manager. She led me through the complexities of the system, helping me choose a group home, and two day programs. I had already found my brother an excellent primary care physician, a psychiatrist and a psychologist. However, my brother's happiness, re-found at Menningers, would never be sustained without the County Developmental Disabilities Organization, the case manager, a good group home, and day programs run by charitable organizations. The whole system, including the programs run by the charities, was funded primarily through Medicaid.

Because he had been taken into the State system as an emergency case, Charles was not on Medicaid. Several years later, the State decided to eliminate the funding that paid for my brother's care. They would only pay using Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) funding. I had only a few months to get him on Medicaid, so I hired a lawyer. Charles had retained all the money he had ever earned in those years at the library, and inherited a thousand here and there from distant well-intentioned relatives who didn't realize their gifts would prevent him from getting the services he needed through Medicaid, which, for most people, is the only way to get the services at all. The lawyer helped me to spend down his assets to \$2,000 and to set up a State-approved special-needs trust for him so that he would qualify for Medicaid.

For sixteen years Charles lived happily in a group home in Wichita, attended day programs, and received needed medical attention, most all of which was paid for by Medicaid HCBS funding. Medicaid also paid for any transportation that I did not provide, including rides to and from church, where Charles sang in the choir.

Last May my husband and I moved to New Mexico to be near our son and small grandsons. We moved my brother with us, though, since we, aged 68 and 71, are unable to care for him, I had to find a place for him to live. Over two years ago I started researching services and funding for him in this State. I found an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) that would take him, but, for which my husband and I would have to privately pay \$9,000/month until NM Medicaid would take over the financial responsibility for his care. With the advice of a lawyer I hired over a year ago to help steer us (once again!) through the hurdles of Medicaid, I placed him in that ICF. Charles is there now, awaiting a decision from the State as to whether or not he will receive Medicaid. I live in perpetual trepidation that either we will not get a decision from the State before our funds run out, or NM Medicaid will find a reason - any reason - to reject him.

With the Graham-Cassidy Bill on the table, I have a third reason for trepidation - namely that soon it won't matter what the State of NM decides because there won't be any Medicaid money for my brother; in fact, there won't even be any ICF for him to live in. All of these scenarios send me into a near-panic: I can't care for my brother myself, and I can't afford to pay for his care. What am I to do? I can't leave him on the street.

I implore you to reject the Graham-Cassidy bill and save millions of Americans like Charles and myself from untold misery and an early death.



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Silvana Neal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Seriously? Ideas to help the Democrats?

Finance Committee,

OK. You asked for it.

As they used to say on the radio and in comic books: "The jig's up".

Those of us with eyes to see are on to the Game.

This Trumpcare song and dance is ridiculous, absurd and painfully transparent.

We are aware that the handlers for both so-called parties have a very big and very nasty agenda: ultimately, to take everything away from We the People.

Stop putting bandaids on the PROBLEM! Find the Courage to acknowledge and act upon the SOURCE!

It's time to end the charade.

Silvana Neal  
[REDACTED]

PO Box 217

Embudo, NM [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elizabeth Migliaccio [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

9/23/17  
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. Please take this into consideration.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Migliaccio  
Glendale, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bridget Johnson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Thoughts on the Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to share my daughter's story and the devastating impact of the proposed Graham Cassidy bill. When she was 17 and a high school senior, an AVM (**arteriovenous malformation**) ruptured in her head. I was out of town and my husband was working. She had enough sense to call 911 before she passed out, otherwise she would have died.

She ended up enduring 4 brain surgeries and still suffers from migraines. She is now 24 and is currently covered under my insurance for the next two years (I hope).

Any "replacement" of the Affordable Care Act must include protections for the millions of your constituents, who like my daughter, have survived a health crisis and could be denied (or priced out of) insurance because of their "pre-existing condition". Don't do this!

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Bridget Johnson

[REDACTED]  
Missoula, MT [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Monica Esquibel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Hi,

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

How can Congress hold a vote for a bill that will affect 1/6 of our country without a CBO score showing its full impact?

Additionally, 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.

I'm 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 groceries or 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.  
Monica Esquibel  
Waunakee, Wisconsin

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elena Sniezek [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care -ACA

I would like to see a bi-partisen effort made to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Elena Sniezek

[REDACTED]

--  
Elena Sniezek

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Catherine Watkins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH comment

I've had breast cancer and am diabetic...two strikes that would ensure, under the new bill proposal, that I will be unable to afford decent healthcare.

The ACA is working but could work much better if you would take the time and energy to fix it rather than chopping at it wildly with a legislative ax. It is unconscionable that the US continues to allow providers and insurers to profit off illness (not to mention the Big Pharma).

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

Sincerely,  
Catherine Watkins  
Champaign, IL

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Yvona [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my concerns about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill. It would deny coverage to many Americans. I believe we need Medicare for All Americans. I know people who work full time yet ave crappy insurance and cannot afford medical care.

Insurance companies should not rule on my or my friends or relatives health care needs. Doctors should.

Yvona Fast

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathryn Kent [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:40 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My son has an extremely rare genetic mutation that almost killed him in February and is now about to get a bone marrow transplant. I have epilepsy. My brother has stage 4 cancer. All of these are pre-existing conditions that could, under this new bill, allow insurance companies to deny us coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Kathryn R. Kent

Williamstown, MA



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** cheryl herbsman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal Plan

At the age of 15 my daughter was diagnosed with a life-altering incurable autoimmune disorder. The disease strikes at random through no fault of the sufferer. She is a hard-working young woman, who managed to graduate college on time despite having been quite ill for major portions of her time there. She is now working and paying taxes and contributing to society. The medication that allows her to participate in life would cost \$180,000/year without insurance. Without this medication she would be severely ill, likely in need of hospitalization as she was before beginning this medication. She desperately needs affordable healthcare.

Please, please think of us and so very many others who face severe medical situations through no fault of their own. Please vote no on the Graham-Cassidy bill and return to the bipartisan effort to reform and stabilize the Affordable Care Act.

Thank you,  
Cheryl Herbsman  
San Rafael, CA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Yahoo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act

I/my family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid and affordability is without, I would not be able to be on my mothers healthcare anymore and wouldn't be able to afford my own. I would not know how to afford my medication or birth control. My mother is also in the process of losing her full time job and would be without healthcare. She works two jobs and still struggles to get by and I don't know how she would handle the extra financial burden. She is 50 years old and has worked all of her life, she deserves a break not harder times. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Zoe Manning

Burnsville, Minnesota

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Rivera [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 7:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Dear Sirs/Madame

Please do whatever is in your power to stop the repeal of the ACA. People like me and people who are in worst conditions than me that can't live without medication and medical treatments will die. Don't leave us to die we have families that need us. It is possible for Americans to have affordable quality healthcare. You can make it possible. In poorer countries people have good healthcare. American citizens should have it also.

--

Linn Rivera

"Good things happen to those who hustle".

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Cindy Caraway [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.

Cindy Caraway  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dubuque, Iowa [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marie O'Meara [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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Marie O'Meara  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Albuquerque, New Mexico [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Timothy Biel [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 Biel  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tinley Park, Illinois [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Barbara Livant [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.

Barbara Livant  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

South Setauket, , New York [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Arthur Dristiliaris  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Providence, Rhode Island [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

Look 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.

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

Stop giving tax breaks to your wealthy supporters (and selves) and SERVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE!

Glen Clabaugh

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
San Diego, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alanna Goldstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** American Geriatrics Society Opposes Graham-Cassidy  
**Attachments:** American Geriatrics Society Statement on Graham-Cassidy for Senate Finance Committee (9 22 17).pdf

Attached is a **statement from the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill**. The AGS is a not-for-profit organization comprised of nearly 6,000 geriatrics healthcare professionals. Our mission is to improve the health, independence, and quality of life of all older people.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our statement.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] American Geriatrics Society  
[REDACTED]

[www.americangeriatrics.org](http://www.americangeriatrics.org)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Dorrie Hunt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

The Graham-Cassidy violates our basic needs by allowing states to determine how insurance will be doled out to its citizens. Pre-existing conditions may or may not be supported based on what the states and insurance companies want to implement.

Healthcare should be a basic right. It is part of needs in order to survive. As citizens we elect our representatives to make our government as efficient as possible and with those efficiencies provide the best possible opportunities and way of life for the American people. Yet daily we hear about our representatives and government officials taking advantage of their positions by evading taxes, trying to benefit themselves financially, and doing this on the backs of the people. Morals, decency, and doing the right thing is taking a backseat. It is appalling and disappointing to see our country go from an admirable one to a ridiculed one. Lying to repeal the ACA is a tipping point. The bill does not pass the Jimmy Kimmel test.

Vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. Thank you.



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Charles Arnold [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.

Charles Arnold  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Manchester, New Hampshire [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** SHERYL B. HAUSMAN, PH.D. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony on the Graham-Cassidy Bill

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 husband and I are both being treated for high blood pressure, he had a heart attack a couple of years ago, and we both suffer from arthritis. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Sheryl B. Hausman, Ph.D.

Corte Madera, CA [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marnie Roti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have had cancer twice, and my daughter has had breast cancer. The increased premiums which would undoubtedly result for pre-existing conditions would be very stressful to our family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Roti  
Scottsdale, AZ

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julia Feder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony for Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. When I was pregnant with my first child and unexpectedly ran into complications in the birth process, my child's medical bills were covered by Medicaid. If Medicaid benefits had been reduced, we would never have been able to afford these unexpected expenses. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Julia Feder

Omaha, Nebraska

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Karla Devine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Karla Devine  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Manhattan Beach, California [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Nelly Case <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Nelly Case

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Los Alamos, New Mexico [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Rebecca Wescott Pullen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to the Graham-Cassidy health bill

My family strongly opposes the Graham-Cassidy health bill. Something as important as health care cannot be rushed through in an uninformed and irresponsible manner like this.

The USA is one of the only developed nations that doesn't have health care as a human right, and that is the direction we should be moving as a country, along with medication and care cost controls through regulations.

Rebecca Wescott and family  
San Jose, CA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Minna Davis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it will hurt the disenfranchised and may even effect my future stability. In states where there was cooperation, the ACA works. Build on it, fix it so that all Americans can feel confident that their health is a priority for their legislators. Healthcare is NOT a bipartisan issue; it is an issue for us all.

Minna Davis  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Pedro Hernandez [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Pedro Hernandez  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Jackson, Mississippi [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Fredric Salstrom [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.

Fredric Salstrom  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

St. Mary of the Woods, Indiana [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Judith Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:12 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Both my adult children rely on ACA for health care. They are healthy young adults but could not afford private health insurance before ACA.

Neither patients nor Health insurance companies can thrive if every change of administration overturns the health care laws.

Please find a bipartisan way to improve the problems with ACA rather than repealing it.

Thank you,

Judith Murphy

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Deborah Carstens [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am urging a NO vote on this bill for many reasons. First, it is exceedingly irresponsible to vote on the bill before a full CBO score can be completed that will provide information regarding how many people will lose coverage (the funding cuts make certain that there will be losses, instead of gains) and how this will affect premiums. This measure affects one-sixth of the American economy, and there will be no meaningful hearings and only limited opportunities for input from interested parties. The bill is opposed by the Medicaid directors in EVERY state as well as several governors of both parties. It is opposed by insurers, hospitals, doctors, the AARP, the AMA, the American Cancer Society, and the March of Dimes, to name a few.

It is clear, as some senators have candidly admitted, that the ONLY reason this bill is being pushed forward is because the Republicans want to pass some sort of health care legislation. They literally do not care what is in the bill. They do not care that the states do not have the infrastructure to take on this obligation. They do not care that premiums may rise astronomically for those with pre-existing conditions. They do not care that the individual insurance market will be unsustainable without an individual mandate. They simply do not care about anything other than pleasing big donors who have demanded an end to the ACA.

I am appalled and disgusted by the repeated attempts to end the ACA without involving Democrats or interested parties in the process. It is time to work together to FIX the ACA, not destroy it and thereby leave literally millions of Americans without access to affordable health insurance.

I am directly affected by this bill, although not nearly as badly as many. Three years ago, I was able to leave my job and start my own business. I was only able to do that because of the ACA. Without access to affordable insurance on the individual market, I will have to return to the job market, at age 57. It makes no sense to discourage Americans from entrepreneurship or force them to stay in jobs they hate just so they can have health insurance.

Please do not pass this bill!

Sincerely,

Deborah Carstens

Deborah L. Carstens  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Laura McKenzie Zeiss [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 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. My husband has a pre-existing condition of asthma, and protecting our ability to purchase affordable health insurance is very important to me. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Laura McKenzie Zeiss

Madison, WI



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Linda Baxter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:11 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Terrible

As a stage 4 Breast Cancer patient, this bill terrifies me. There would be nothing to stop my insurance company from jacking my rates. They are rubbing their little hands together in glee, wondering how much they can squeeze out of me before I die.

Graham Cassidy= Bankruptcy and Death.

Linda Baxter  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Larry Bourdeau [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Larry Bourdeau  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Jefferson, [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** TIMOTHY O'DONNELL [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 2:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*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.*

P.S Passing such a sweeping bill would be irresponsible without even time given for Congressional Budget Office review. My local Town Meeting government format would not even allow such mystery items with unknown financial implications to pass, and the United States is much bigger than my town's meager 30,000 population.

Thank you,

Timothy J. O'Donnell, MD  
Massachusetts

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Allyson Aranda [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Please work to find bipartisan solutions to fix the ACA rather than rushing through the horribly conceived Graham-Cassidy bill. Without a CBO score it is impossible to know the full impact the bill could have. But patient advocates, medical associations, hospitals, and insurance companies oppose it, which should tell you all you need to know. No one wants this except for GOP Congressmen who need to fulfill a campaign promise at any cost.

Americans will die if this bill goes through, and you will have to live with that on your conscience.

Sincerely,  
Allyson Aranda

[REDACTED]  
Stockton, CA [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Judi Poulson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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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.

Judi Poulson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Fairmont, Minnesota [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Elaine Eudy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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Elaine Eudy  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

East Point, Georgia [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Scott Shay [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote AGAINST Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I will keep this brief but wanted to share my own story, and I have no senator to write, since I live in Washington DC. I found out 4 years ago that I had thyroid cancer. I was lucky--it was Stage 2 and operable. I had my thyroid removed soon after the discovery. It had not metastasized by that point. We decided to forgo radiation at the time, because I seemed at low risk of recurrence due to age (mid-40s) and Stage. However, within a year, the cancer was back. So I underwent 2 rounds of radiation. Radiation carries its own risks of causing new cancers, so it's not something you do lightly. However, it was necessary to ensure that the cancer that had come back did not survive. I seem to be cancer-free now, 2 years post-radiation. However, the lack of a thyroid causes problems every day. Drugs cannot perfectly mimic an organ that developed over millions of years. There are good days and bad ones.

I HAVE A PRE-EXISTING CONDITION. Since I had cancer, I am forever marked by it. If I were to seek insurance without Obamacare regulations for pre-existing conditions I would either be denied coverage, just because I had cancer, or under "Graham-Cassidy" I would have to pay super high premiums eventually, since that is the logical conclusion of not forcing companies NOT to do this (e.g., that's why Obamacare did this in the first place, because people with pre-existing conditions could not afford high premiums).

If there are problems with Obamacare, FIX IT IN A BIPARTISAN WAY. Don't ram through something just so you can say you "repealed and replaced" Obamacare and you can make a tiny number of your constituents "happy" (until, of course, they eventually get sick themselves, and turn on you for your lack of foresight).

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Thank you,  
Scott Shay  
Washington, DC

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** C Timberlake <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

C Timberlake  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Aptos, California [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Lynn Levine  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Minneapolis, Minnesota [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Russell Thorp  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Novato, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Curtis Neishloss  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Santa Barbara, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Shirley Stapleton  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Scottsdale, Arizona [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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

Finance Committee,-

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

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Kyle Ruggieri  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Pebble Beach, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill. A bill that impacts the welfare of all our citizens so profoundly should go through a normal hearing and scoring process. I fear that the Graham-Cassidy Bill endangers the high quality, affordable healthcare that my family and I depend on. Furthermore, several family members are healthcare providers, and this bill has the potential to destabilize the healthcare market, making it more difficult for their patients to see doctors when they need them and adding uncertainty for people who are employed as healthcare professionals. Our country deserves a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Hannah Ramer  
Minneapolis, MN

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ddemos [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Diana Demopoulos  
**Subject:** SAVING ACA/Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

RE: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Please allow the millions of people who now have healthcare die to the ACA, to continue. If Republicans wanted to fix whatever problems exist in ACA they could easily do that, considering the bulk of the work has been already been done. But this is not about the citizens, it is about politics and ALL of you are playing with the very people you are elected and paid to serve. It's shameful and just plain wrong.

If you are actually trying to tell us to get on board with this newest version of healthcare...then have the proof of your convictions and make it the same plan for EVERYONE in the HOUSE and the SENATE as well. Do your jobs. Those of you who had the courage to implement town halls saw your constituents extremely angry about having their healthcare "replaced" with dreck...but this just goes to prove that you don't care what they say. Wait until you are all voted out, and you have to get you and your family the healthcare you are proposing now...only then will you actually understand. Start to grow a conscience.

Diana DeMoss

[REDACTED]  
La Ca [REDACTED]

CC Dianne Feinstein

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Ernest Canning  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

THOUSAND OAKS, California [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Zachary Todd

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Long Beach, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Martin Horwitz [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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Martin Horwitz  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

San Francisco, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Ann Marie Lahaie

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Lynn, Massachusetts [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of C.J. Hayden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony about Graham-Cassidy

I am a cancer survivor, and I need quality, affordable healthcare in order to stay healthy and keep working. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I am 60 years old and self-employed. I must purchase my health insurance in the individual market for 5 more years before I'm eligible for Medicare. With my pre-existing condition and age, this bill threatens to make health insurance completely unaffordable for me.

I don't want the ACA repealed. I want to see a bipartisan effort in Congress to improve and sustain it.

Sincerely,  
Christine J. Hayden  
San Francisco, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

Finance Committee,

Hello. The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Also, hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-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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Joel Isaacs  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Susan Schissler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

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

Sincerely, Susan Schissler

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Stephani Sutherland [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Stop working on Cassidy-Graham

Dear Finance Committee:

This latest version of repeal and replace, Cassidy-Graham, is the worst yet. It will hurt Americans, and this is irresponsible governing. Now that thankfully McCain has expressed his willingness to vote his conscience and support nation over party, don't spend one more minute on this disastrous bill. Please get back to working on bipartisan solutions!

Respectfully,  
Dr Stephani Sutherland

--  
Stephani Sutherland, PhD

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Jennie McDonald [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Urgent: Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing.

My family relies on high quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Our financial situation is improved by the current ACA--our 23-year old daughter can stay on our health care plan; my own pre-existing conditions do not limit my options; my elderly (Republican) parents rely on benefits from Medicare; my brother-in-law relies on the ACA for basic coverage and could never afford it otherwise; our emergency rooms are not as packed to the gills with people who have no coverage and therefore run to the hospital for minor medical needs; and I could go on.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. I think it's the smart, humane, and ethical thing to do. It's in the long term best interests of this country. There are already too many efforts underway to transfer wealth to a few on the backs of the majority of people in the United States.

Please do the right thing.

Regards,

Jennie McDonald

Berkeley, CA

[REDACTED]

Please note new address

[REDACTED]





**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Nancy Hauer

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Minnesota MN [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Mark Levey [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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Mark Levey

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wilmette, Illinois [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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This proposal neither addresses the problems with our current healthcare system, nor does it help protect the neediest among us. It will also burden states with loss of revenues and the cost of millions of uninsured people—having an enormous impact on the economy.

It is a travesty.

Margery Groten  
[REDACTED]

Margery Groten  
Poughkeepsie Town of, New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Letitia Dace [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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Letitia Dace  
theatrejoy@hotmail.com

[REDACTED]  
Manhattan, Bretagne [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Barbara Wolanin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I am writing voice my deep concern that his bill is actually under consideration.  
We can do better. We Must do better. Anyone who has a preexisting condition should stand up, if able, and call for the resignations of those who supported this bill.  
Anyone who does not have a pre-existing condition should help those with conditions, just for one week, and walk in their shoes and their loved ones shoes.  
We must help bear their burden. We will be richer if we help. We will be morally bankrupt if we don't.

Barbara Wolanin  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Gary Plumb [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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Gary Plumb  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tucson, Arizona [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Gerald Stein [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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Gerald Stein  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Northbrook, Illinois [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Martha Dumas [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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Martha Dumas  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Portland, Connecticut [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Anne Carter [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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Anne Carter  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Cambridge, Massachusetts [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Donna Ellingson [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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Donna Ellingson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Monroe, Wisconsin [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Vicki Addley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 12:07 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Lack of Healthcare

Dear Finance Committee,

The American people are yelling No to this horrific bill. Please do your job and represent our interests and not those of large donors to the GOP. The Affordable Care Act already gives you a blueprint for what can work for us. Any improvements are welcome.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Vicki Addley  
West Hills, CA [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Robert Cserr [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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Robert Cserr  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dighton Town of, Kentucky [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

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

Finance Committee,

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

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Katherine Aker  
[REDACTED]

Tujunga, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Marge Dakouzlian [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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Marge Dakouzlian  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

staten island new york, New York [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Amy Smereck [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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Amy Smereck

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Camden, Maine [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Rachel Collins [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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Rachel Collins  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Princeton, West Virginia [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Lacey Hicks [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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Lacey Hicks  
[REDACTED]

Fremont, California [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Lori Saltis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I have a pre-existing condition (thyroid disease). I have friends, family, acquaintances, all voting American citizens, who also have pre-existing conditions such as cancer, diabetes, etc. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The Republicans have had many years to come up with a better bill. They failed. If they had come up with something better than ACA, I would've have certainly supported it. The bills they've put forward were/are cruel and would've put many Americans at risk for their lives or losing everything due to medical costs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Regards,

Lori Saltis  
Millbrae, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of mickwop [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

To Whom It May Concern:

I COULD NOT BE MORE AGAINST THE CASSIDY-GRAHAM BILL.

As a freelance writer who must always provide insurance for myself, Obamacare at least grants me some protection from the vagaries of the marketplace.

And like every American, I am only a single rogue cell--or one unforeseen accident--away from having a pre-existing condition.

This country should be moving forwards--towards a Single Payer Plan.

It should not be moving backwards--which is exactly what this bill does.

Please Vote Against This Terrible Bill.

colin patrick lynch.  
south pasadena, ca

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Edward Scott [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:55 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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Edward Scott  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Flushing, NY, New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jeanine Silversmith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

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

Sincerely,  
Jeanine Silversmith  
Wakefield, RI

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Jane Eisenstark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2017 4:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save health care for millions

If you don't save the Affordable Care Act, I'm betting you'll be killing your own voters. You all have been voted in as public servants. You should be serving the PUBLIC, whether they have a lot of money or not!  
Millions of people will lose there health care and many will endure illness and many will die because of it.  
Is that what you want your legacy to be???  
What kind if PUBLIC SERVANT ARE YOU?  
Think about it!  
Jane Eisenstark  
Kensington CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lauren Gorter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Kanner, Max (Durbin); Villanueva, Josie (Duckworth); Jill Fraggos  
**Subject:** Letter of concern | Graham-Cassidy Health Reform Proposal  
**Attachments:** Letter to Senate Finance Comm 9-23-17.docx

Please see written statement to be shared at the Senate Finance Committee hearing on Monday September 25th -- in opposition to the proposed Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson legislation. Thank you.

Lauren Gorter  
[REDACTED]

Lake Forest, IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Naomi Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment about Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare.

The Graham-Cassidy Bill would take insurance away from millions of people and endanger lives. This is not the answer.

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

Sincerely,

Naomi Williams  
Davis, CA



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** patricia whelehan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:56 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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patricia whelehan  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

san francisco, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** casee maxfield [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:56 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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casee maxfield  
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California 90028

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Daniel .Otis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Obamacare

My family and I--all healthy people--were paying more than a third of our income--\$13,000--for lousy health insurance that didn't cover physical therapy. Since Obamacare, I just a few thousand a year, and it does cover physical therapy. My bad hip is much better, and I'm told I may have averted a hip replacement.

I know that Republicans would like to give the rich a tax cut and pay for it with American lives. We won't tolerate it. Defeat Trumpcare once and for all, and try to do something for the people who pay your salary, not for the bastards who have bought the Republican Party (and a fair part of the Democrats, too).

Daniel Otis  
Ithaca, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Veronica Bourassa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Protect our healthcare. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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Veronica Bourassa  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Evensville, Tennessee [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Katherine Warren [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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Katherine Warren

[REDACTED]  
Rochester, New York [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** James R Monroe <Randy@HFTROCKS.com>  
**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.

James R Monroe  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Concord, California [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** MARK CONNOLLY [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear sirs and madams,

As an American who has spent 49 of my 61 years working to provide for myself and others while watching access to medical care diminish, I am urging you not to repeal the ACA and remove millions from access to health care. Adequate affordable health care for all needs to be a basic tenet of American values. I do not understand how the richest, most powerful nation on earth can deny medical care to millions of their citizens. It is a very Un-American thing to do.

Instead of repealing the ACA, I ask that you improve it. The Graham-Cassidy bill does quite the opposite and should be voted down by anyone with a conscience.

Yours truly,

Mark Connolly

Somerville, Massachusetts

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** claire anderso [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy proposal:

- The legislation would jeopardize workers by not requiring large companies to offer affordable healthcare.
- It would risk the health of people with pre-existing medical conditions by not capping what insurers can charge. Maternity care and mental health treatments would particularly be compromised.
- The bill would put people with lower-incomes in jeopardy by removing subsidies.
- Many states stand to lose funds due to redistribution of Medicaid payments.

Finally, I object to the careless, politically motivated speed with which this bill was initiated, without time to consider the budget implications from the CBO.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Claire Anderson  
Racine, Wisconsin



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristina Rath [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 1:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

I am a gynecologist in the New Haven area of Connecticut. My patients rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have countless patients who have been able to afford reliable birth control and to have routine gynecologic exams and screening for breast and cervical cancer as a result of the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Kristina Rath, MD  
Madison, CT

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** C. Gene McCormick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:56 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.

C. Gene McCormick

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
7476 [REDACTED]  
Tucson, Arizona [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Beth Darlington [REDACTED]  
**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.

Beth Darlington  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Poughkeepsie Town of, New York [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gail Sweeney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 11:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham Cassidy Bill

This bill is a tragedy and a nightmare for people like my brilliant sister, who is a college professor in New York State. She is in remission from myelodysplasia, held in safety by an experimental drug (Revlamid). Her willingness to be in a drug trial, her continuing battle to be in the classroom each day, her unparalleled intelligence, her fantastic wit in the face of despair. All of these things would be snuffed out by a cap on her benefits. She is one of millions who would be punished for having the temerity to be ILL. My 91 year old dad, my seven precious grandchildren. My incredibly wondrous four children. Each of them would be impacted by this vote.

Is it too much to ask of the GOP to include both sides of the aisle in an attempt to find a way to protect the healthcare of the people who are counting on them?

It feels like kindergarteners have taken over the Capitol Building. But kindergarteners are kinder. Smarter. And more willing to share.

Gail Sweeney  
A Flame Keeper in California

Get Outlook for iOS

Get Outlook for iOS

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sallie Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I urge you to reject the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. A bi-partisan proposal will provide the opportunity to correct weaknesses in ACA, be responsive to those most in need of health care and address budget issues. There are other solutions.

Sallie Harris, Ph.D.  
Kansas City, MO

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jeannette Baeza <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill Comments

Graham Cassidy Bill  
9-25-17

Jeannette Baeza  
[REDACTED]

Jensen Beach, FL [REDACTED]

I am a single mother who pays \$950 per month in rent and only makes \$15 per hour. I am not eligible to receive most income-based program entitlements, as I make "too much." I am taxed on my income faithfully, bi-weekly. My daughter, who has Down syndrome, receives OT and speech therapy at her school, which is funded through a Medicaid Block Grant. If my daughter loses these services, I will have to take time out of my workday to take her to therapy, and may even lose my full-time job, as I would have to take considerable time off to meet the hours she is currently receiving. Because of the services my daughter has received, she is toilet trained and can read and do many things that children who are cognitively-typical can do. There are many other single parents like me, who barely make enough to make the ends meet, and do not qualify for help, generally. This bill will have a ripple effect on the economy because unemployment will go up. It makes no sense to rob Peter to pay Paul, as funds will just have to shift from one pot to the other. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lauren Leslie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I strongly 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, destroy Medicaid, and harm the most vulnerable members of our communities - seniors and people with disabilities. It also targets people with pre-existing conditions, like my husband with never-smoker, stage IV lung cancer. His medicine costs \$15,000 a month.

The cynical attempt to bribe Senators Murkowski and Collins further illustrates the base, utter lack of character amongst the designers and supporters of this bill.

Thank you  
Lauren Leslie

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kent Peterman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

We need bipartisan national health care legislation that is informed by expert testimony and careful financial analysis. The current bill is informed by neither. It is a shameless play for campaign donations from obscenely wealthy would-be oligarchs who have no concern for what is in the public interest. Please stop this legislation immediately.

Sincerely,

Kent Peterman



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ariana Pantaleo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

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

My husband and I are small business owners, and our family qualifies for Medicaid. Because of our health coverage, we did not have to hesitate when he recently needed medical assistance for bipolar disorder, or when he required hospitalization for it. We are able to make use of psychiatric and counseling services because we have health coverage. These are essential services to ensure anyone's mental health. Furthermore, I was able to receive high-quality prenatal care and have a safe pregnancy and delivery because of our coverage. I don't have to worry—and no one should have to worry—about keeping my family healthy.

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

Sincerely,  
Ariana Pantaleo  
Downers Grove, IL

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham-Cassidy

I urge senators to vot no on the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill.

-Barbara Shelanskey  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michelle Brown <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday 9/25

To Whom it May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, we oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Currently, my partner relies on the ACA for healthcare. In the recent past, I have also relied on the ACA for healthcare while I was completing nursing school. The ACA gave me peace of mind that I was covered without worrying about how I was going to afford it (paying for health insurance was not a possibility for me at that time).

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

Sincerely,

Michelle Brown  
[REDACTED]

Eugene, OR [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Wuellner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

To Whom It May Concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. My daughter, who has Down Syndrome, will rely on Medicaid for her entire life. Medicaid will allow her to have healthcare, affordable housing, and a good quality of life long after my husband and I can care for her. She is happy and full of laughter, and we want her to have the best possible life. Please do not cut her funding.

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Wuellner  
Indiana

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sally Johnston <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Sen. Cassidy/Graham Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

It is very difficult to understand how some you Republicans can feel comfortable in supporting this TERRIBLE bill! It is a bill that will cut millions of people out healthcare coverage. Healthcare coverage should be our constitutional right! This bill virtually takes away everything including Medicare, Medicaid and the expansion of Medicaid for middle-class families and for who cannot afford healthcare coverage.

Why can't our government officials look at ways to improve ACA and work towards eliminating the high cost of pharmaceutical drugs. There are ways to improve Medicaid, Medicare and ACA without destroying them. How will that help millions of people who depend on healthcare coverage. Do you have to witness millions of people dying from not getting the care they need before you will take the correct action?

Our government officials have the best healthcare coverage of all and that's because we are the ones that pay for it. You should be grateful and want to support your constituents in obtaining insurance for all.  
Sally W Johnston

Sally Johnston  
Advocacy Coordinator

[REDACTED]  
Syracuse, NY [REDACTED]

T: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



<="" body="">

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cheryl Bruce <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Please do not pass this bill.

Cheryl Bruce  
[REDACTED]

Columbia, MD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Registered Voter

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sandra Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to you to ask if you would PLEASE vote AGAINST the passage of this bill. The Graham-Cassidy Bill will negatively impact individuals with brain injury!

I am a survivor from a severe brain injury as a result of a drunk driver running a red light in 1983. Since this accident, I have had extensive rehabilitation to enable me to function and contribute to today's society. As well, I am gainfully employed in a part-time receptionist position. I would like to plea to the Senate Finance Committee to vote against the passage of this bill. I had to receive physical, occupational, & speech therapy as well as receive extensive therapy in New Medico Community Re-Entry Services in Massachusetts which lasted years before I learned compensatory strategies allowing me to function as an independent adult. This bill would not allow these medical services to be provided.

Thank You for your Time and Attention!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sandra Myer Smith

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ilana Haramati <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

Earlier this year, in response to a tidal wave of public opposition, the Senate rejected a series of healthcare bills that would gut health insurance programs, including Medicaid, and seriously destabilize the insurance markets.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is worse than those rejected bills, drastically cutting funding for Medicaid and individual markets subsidies in the short term, and ending funding in 9 years. This bill would leave tens of millions of Americans desperate for basic care. Cruelty barely masked as fiscal responsibility is no way to govern.

What is government for if not to protect Americans' access to basic necessities? 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,  
Ilana Haramati



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** lauren corallo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing the Graham-Cassidy 'Healthcare' Bill

Hello Senators of the Finance Committee,

I am writing about the Graham-Cassidy 'healthcare' bill that will repeal the ACA and affect millions of American's access to affordable healthcare.

I'd like to start off by saying my dad has recently passed due to stage 4 renal cell carcinoma, and how grateful I was that he had access to affordable healthcare. Without it he would not have been able to battle it as long as he did and my mom would not have been able to beat her skin cancer. The passing of the Graham-Cassidy bill would strip away so many Americans access to the care my parents were able to receive.

I am asking congress to please not hold a vote on this potentially deadly bill to 1/6th of the American economy without first receiving a full CBO score of the cost and numbers of Americans who will become uninsured due to its passing. We cannot afford to push this bill through without the regular order that comes with passing such a major piece of legislation.

I am concerned about the details of the bill that would allow states to loosen protections for pre-existing conditions, women's health rights and the huge cut in federal funding. American's tax dollars should absolutely not be moved away from funding healthcare and into the pockets of the ultra-wealthy donors. Many Americans are not as ignorant/blind as GOP congress members think and can clearly see this is a decision of party over the people they are supposed to represent. Not a single Medicaid Director in all 50 states thinks this bill is a good idea, as well as almost every single American health organization, plus doctors, nurses, hospitals and even the insurance companies.

This is hardly a healthcare bill seeing as it does not bring healthcare to more Americans, but could cause up to a predicted 30 million people to lose their coverage. It is wrong and un-American to make families choose between putting food on their tables and paying for outrageously priced healthcare that won't even cover as much as it currently does.

We can do better. Let's stop this ridiculous and mean bill and start working on a bipartisan deal to improve the ACA. No one claims the ACA is perfect, it definitely needs work to bring down premiums and make it so even more Americans can have their right to affordable health insurance. This is your job and why you've been voted to represent the American people, not to destroy the bill that finally gave millions of people access to affordable health insurance. It's time to return to regular order with bipartisan committees, hearings and a vote that requires all of congress to work together for a real solution that will actually benefit the American people. Stop this madness right now.

Thank you,  
Lauren Corallo

--

Lauren Corallo | [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Blonde Moment <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Against Graham-Cassidy

I urge Senators to vote no on Graham-Cassidy. Not one respected medical association has endorsed it. In fact, they have banded together against it. Physicians are against it. Hospitals are against it. Ask yourselves who is for it.

As someone living with the aftermath of a brain tumor, I carry the burden of knowing what a slow painful death would feel like. I understand that horrible diseases exist that cannot be diagnosed or treated in the Emergency Room. A vote for Graham-Cassidy is a vote that promotes needless suffering for many, including rural areas closing hospitals. Survivable, time sensitive diseases, such as heart attacks, will become unsurvivable for some as a result. People with cancer will be unable to afford premiums.

Graham-Cassidy is a morally bankrupt bill that must be stopped.

I urge you to vote no and stop this constant resurrection of a repeal 70% of this country doesn't want. Continue to work on bipartisan legislation that can stand the test of time.

If you don't know what it is like to be terribly ill and wonder if you will still have healthcare going forward, you are fortunate. It makes you feel equally terrified for your life and at the same time hoping you will go quickly if such legislation is passed and your insurance cap is reached. For most of us, it is not just the fear of death, but of the process of death-- i.e. suffering. Do you wish this on your fellow Americans? If you truly have a conscience, how can you vote yes?

Lisa Eldridge  
Malden, Massachusetts

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shirley Kessler <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

Dear Senators,

I would like to see a bipartisan healthcare bill - such as the Alexander.Murray approach. It is critical for so many in our country that they have access to affordable basic healthcare. Please recognize that a majority of Americans want a bipartisan plan.

Thank you for your service,

Shirley Kessler

[REDACTED]  
Lambertville, NJ [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Todd Dwyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy

My contract at work is ending on the 29th, and I will need ObamaCare to cover the gap until I can find another job.

Why are you guys trying to take my healthcare away?

**NO on Graham-Cassidy**

Thanks,  
todd dwyer

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tony Aarts <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** RE: Graham-Cassidy Repeal Bill

Tony Aarts  
[REDACTED]

Minneapolis, MN [REDACTED]

September 25, 2017

Members of the Finance Committee:

Thank you for your time. My name is Tony Aarts, and I live in Minneapolis, MN. I very much hope that this committee will take in the many stories, studies, and impacts of this repeal bill to see that it is a total detriment to ensuring the well-being of millions in this country. Statements made by the medical field, by various local and congressional officials, and members of business and industry all agree that the provisions in this bill do not safeguard our health. It leaves millions in real mortal danger.

Members of the committee, I have a pre-existing condition regarding mental illness. Since I was 18, I have coped with severe anxiety and panic attacks. In my life, I have had truly "rock bottom" moments dealing with this condition. Moments where I felt I could not endure any more, sleepless nights sweating through panic attack after panic attack, helpless and afraid. At the age of 18, I could not understand what was happening to me. I retreated from my friends, from my family. My family looked on helpless when I experienced these attacks and the emotional duress that followed. They tried to coax me out, but they did not know the reality. I had a mental illness. I was ashamed. I felt broken and "faulty." Finally, I sought care. I couldn't take it any longer. I was seriously afraid for my own life. I worked with a doctor and therapist to combat my condition. This has taken years and years of work and struggle. I am now 35 years old. I have weathered many ups and downs with this mental illness, but I thrive, work, and give back. It is still something I find very difficult to even communicate to my family, but I'm where I am now because of quality care and compassionate counseling. This mental illness is my pre-existing condition. This is one of my battles, like that of many, many across this country.

The ways in which this repeal bill would take from those that need real quality care for their pre-existing conditions is horrendous and abhorrent. It is inhumane. My father has lived with physical disabilities since birth. He is now retired. He has a grandson. My wish is for him to enjoy his retirement after his decades of work, after raising me and my brother, after giving so much to our family. I want him to play with his grandson and not have to worry that this repeal bill will come for his very necessary care. My father is the strongest person I have ever met. He only takes what he needs to get by, he works, and he supports those he loves. Period. These are two of my stories I needed to share with this committee. Please, look at what we, the people, are telling you. This bill must be defeated. It is a sham to say this is a healthcare proposal. Do not support this bill's passage for that would be an ignominious act, an act that will not be forgotten.

Sincerely,

Tony Aarts

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Madeleine James <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** For Our Country's Sake, Vote NO on the G-C Healthcare Bill

Like so many other Americans, I have benefited significantly from the ACA. My premiums are lower, my co-pays are reasonable, and for the past few years, I've regularly been able to consistently receive the healthcare I need – a vast improvement over my previous experiences with health insurance. I implore the Senate and Congressional leaders to work on improving the ACA instead of repealing/replacing it with an inhuman, anti-American bill that will endanger the lives, health, and financial stability of millions of lower-income Americans such as myself. There IS a better path.

Thank you for your time.

Most sincerely,

Madeleine James  
[REDACTED]

New York, NY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dave Gegi Rose <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept 25, 2017

Please vote no yo this I'll considered bill that will make healthcare less available and increase costs for all. Less coverage means more critically ill people using hospitals for basic healthcare, driving up costs for taxpayers and those with insurance since hospitals are required to treat those without insurance. Or are we going to allow the uninsured to die in the streets like in 3rd world countries? A vote for this bill is an anti-life vote as people with preexisting confitions and the working poor will lose access to healthcare. I have a treatable pre-existing condition. It is minor, but if I lost my job, I would lose access to health insurance under this bill. That should be unacceptable in the U.S.

Gladys Leeger  
[REDACTED]

Silver Spring, MD. [REDACTED]

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail  
Get the new AOL app [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Fraga, Dawn (Ty) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Vote NO

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As an educator in medicine 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 & medical educator 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.*

*Ty Fraga, Ph.D.*

University of Massachusetts Medical School  
Associate Director, Division of Education  
Department of OB/GYN  
[REDACTED]

Worcester, MA [REDACTED]

P: [REDACTED]

F: [REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cindy Hammerquist <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My 10 year old disabled son's life depends on Medicaid. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Cindy Hammerquist  
Huntington, NY

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Hannah West <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** (SENDER VALIDATION FAILED --- May not have originated from apparent sender )  
Graham-Cassidy

Sometimes I think that y'all are trying to kill us. First, my mother, who worked hard all her life and suffered many setbacks only to recover due to her persistence, lost everything...her house, her investments, EVERYTHING... in the housing/economic collapse. At age 71, she spent her last remaining dollars to move near my sister, who was pregnant, and got babysitting jobs to make ends meet. The resolution to that crisis did not include the return of any portion of what she lost, and I think that really sucks since she was always responsible—perhaps to a fault— with her mortgage payments, property and income taxes. And got zero protection or any restitution in return for her faithfulness. A year ago she was diagnosed with cancer. Without the reforms that the ACA instituted she wouldn't have had any access to health care, and at her age that can be disastrous even without a cancer diagnosis.

We now have ZERO faith in the US government's commitment to ensuring the general welfare of the REAL HUMAN BEINGS of this country. My mother never did anything wrong and if anyone deserves to live a long, comfortable retirement, it's her. You seem to be intent on pulling the rug out from under her once again and at the most vulnerable time in her life.

If you actually repeal the ACA and do not replace it with something better FOR US - not the insurance companies - that will be the end of my faith in this government. And it could be the end of my mother, which would make you all murderers. Because then I will know for sure that you know what the effect of what you're trying to do will be, and you don't care.

VOTE AGAINST THE REPEAL/REPLACEMENT OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT and let us have our health care in peace. If you want to try and improve and refine what the previous administration worked so hard to provide, I'm all for it, but every alternative we've been presented with so far is unconscionable and unworthy of people who were elected to serve the people of this country.

--  
Hannah West  
[REDACTED]  
Web Designer  
Hannah West design LLC

facebook: [REDACTED]

~~~~~  
[REDACTED]  
Designer/Editor

facebook: [REDACTED]

"To be an artist is to believe in life." — Henry Moore

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Bax, Rebecca <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear honorable members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I write to express strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (GCHJ) proposal on behalf of the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council. The danger facing the millions of adults and children with disabilities if the proposal's Medicaid provisions are adopted is significant. The proposal's imposition of a per capita cap would decimate a program that has provided essential healthcare and long term services and supports to millions of adults and children with disabilities for decades. I am also extremely concerned about the changes proposed to the private individual health insurance market and the tax credits that currently assist low-income individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to purchase insurance.

People with disabilities and, often, their families, depend on the critical services that Medicaid provides for their health, functioning, independence, and well-being. For decades, the disability community and bipartisan Congressional leaders have worked together to ensure that people with disabilities of all ages have access to home- and community-based services that allow them to live, work, go to school, and participate in their communities instead of passing their days in institutions. Medicaid has been a key driver of innovations in cost-effective community-based care, and is now the primary program covering home and community-based services (HCBS) in the United States. Older adults and people with disabilities rely on Medicaid for nursing and personal care services, specialized therapies, intensive mental health services, special education services, and other needed services that are unavailable through private insurance.

Like other proposals considered by the Senate, the GCHJ bill upends those critical supports. Per capita caps would radically restructure the financing of the Medicaid program and divorce the federal contribution from the actual costs of meeting people's health care needs. Caps are designed solely to cut federal Medicaid support to states, ending a decades-long state/federal partnership to improve opportunities and outcomes for our most vulnerable. Slashing federal funds will instigate state budget crises that stifle the planning and upfront investments required to create more efficient care systems. Caps will force states to cut services and eligibility that put the lives, health, and independence of people with disabilities at significant risk. In fact, because HCBS (including waivers) are optional Medicaid services, they will likely be among the first targets when states are addressing budgetary shortfalls. The structure of GCHJ's cap – makes cuts worse after it reduces the growth rate in 2025. Congressional Budget Office score on similar per capita cap proposals showed cuts to federal support by \$756-834 billion by 2026, with steeper cuts the following years, amounting to a 35% cut by 2036, and that such caps would cause tens of millions of Americans to lose health coverage.

Limited carve outs and targeted funding pots included in GCHJ pale in comparison to the scope of these cuts. For example, GCHJ offers a four-year \$8 billion dollar demonstration to expand Medicaid home and community-based services – which is not even half of the \$19 billion cut to the Community First Choice option that eight states have implemented to expand access to necessary in-home services for people with disabilities. All individuals on Medicaid will be impacted by cuts of this magnitude, despite any limited, temporary demonstration funding or restricted funding carve out for a fraction of the children with disabilities that Medicaid supports. Throwing billions in extra temporary funds cannot curb the inevitable, long-term loss of critical Medicaid services that people with disabilities will face as a result of per capita caps.

In addition, GCHJ ends the Medicaid Expansion and the current tax credits and cost sharing reductions that assist low income individuals purchase health insurance in 2020, replacing this assistance with a block grant that would reduce funding by \$239 billion by 2026. After 2026, there would be no federal funding to help the millions of Americans, including millions with disabilities, who rely on Medicaid Expansion and Marketplace coverage to access health care. These are people who previously fell through the cracks in our system, such as individuals with disabilities in a mandatory waiting period before their Medicare coverage begins and millions of people with a behavioral health condition who previously had no pathway to steady coverage. Also, millions of family caregivers who work caring for a child or older adult with a disability and hundreds of thousands of low wage direct care workers who serve people with disabilities gained coverage through the Medicaid expansion. Medicaid expansion helps stabilize our long-term care support networks by keeping caregivers healthy and reducing turnover.

Likewise, Marketplace coverage ensures that people with disabilities can buy comprehensive and affordable health care and have equal access to much needed health care including examinations, therapies to regain abilities after an illness or injury, and affordable medications. We have serious concerns about GCHJ private market provisions, including the state waiver authority to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions (including people with disabilities), older adults, and people who need access to essential health benefits. The nondiscrimination provisions and health insurance reforms, the expanded access to long term supports and services, and the expanded availability of comprehensive and affordable health care have helped many more individuals with disabilities live in the community and be successful in school and the work place. No longer do individuals with disabilities and their families have to make very difficult choices about whether to pay their mortgage, declare bankruptcy, or choose between buying groceries and paying for needed medications.

In short, GCHJ makes health insurance less affordable for millions of people, particularly people with disabilities, older adults, and those with chronic health conditions. The cumulative effect of the private insurance and Medicaid proposals will leave people with disabilities without care and without choices, caught between Medicaid cuts, unaffordable private insurance, and limited highrisk pools. The CBO estimated that ACA repeal without a replacement would cause 32 million people to lose insurance. GCHJ would be even worse, as it effectively repeals all the ACA coverage expansions after 2026, and also implements per capita caps on the rest of Medicaid that will lead to additional enrollment cuts.

Finally, we are extremely disappointed that the proposal has not been considered under regular order and in fact threatens to usurp an active bipartisan effort to bolster Marketplace coverage. The Senate has a longstanding history of deliberating policy proposals through transparent processes, including public hearings, open comment periods on discussion drafts, and multi-stakeholder meetings. We are particularly concerned that Senators are expressing support of this proposal without a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score that thoroughly examines the short and longterm financial and coverage impacts. The complete restructuring proposed for the individual private insurance market is likely to have repercussions on coverage that prior CBO estimates do not take into account. The Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee has begun a bipartisan process examining how to strengthen the Affordable Care Act. We ask all Senators to reject this proposal and instead engage in the process of regular order and work toward bipartisan solutions that ensure that all adults and children with disabilities have access to the healthcare they need.

Very respectfully,

--

Rebecca Lynn Bax  
Executive Director  
Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Des Moines, IA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elodie Domenge <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Improve the ACA, 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,  
Elodie Domenge  
Bethesda, MD

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Ho <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 2:49 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.

Jennifer Ho  
Upland, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alan Oresky <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

**Senators:**

**It is unconscionable that ANY senators would support the Graham-Cassidy bill. The ACA should be fixed rather than dismantled and replaced by a weak bill that robs from the poor and disadvantaged in our nation. Use compassion in reviewing this.**

**Alan Oresky  
Constituent and Voter**

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ruth Chase <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I will cc my senators too on Graham-Cassidy and repeal ACA

Dear Senators,

Last night friends shared our thoughts and experiences at my birthday dinner. Seven us represented the range of economic and age diversity. We ultimately spoke about health insurance and the ACE, its proposed repeal.

No matter the degree of expense to the individual, every one of us opposed the repeal of ACA. AND we do NOT oppose amending it to improve it. Some of us are hard-pressed to pay the premiums, but no one wants to see the poor and indigent thrown off the rolls. No one wants the less fortunate, the less able, the born-sick or the disabled uncovered.

Forget about the noise. Focus on the beauty and the bounty of our country. Perhaps some solutions lie in government control of health insurance. My understanding is that Medicare is administered with a 3% admin fee. Maybe some savings can be had in the pharmaceutical expenses. Could it be that able bodied recipients be assessed premiums on their sugar avoidance and rates of exercise? You've got some big brains up there. Stop being hysterical for the cameras and give us the work product of strong, fluid minds and courageous hearts. Ruth Chase [REDACTED] Tallahassee, Florida



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Griffin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham/Cassidy/Heller

My name is Michael Griffin and I am unequivocally against the Graham/Cassidy/Heller health bill. It is an unconscionable bill that would have millions die.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Elizabeth [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

I, my family, my friends, and my students rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Especially for my students and their families, who may not be able to afford healthcare without the current system, it is crucial to the safety and well being of children that this bill NOT pass. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Without Medicaid, my students with disabilities would be at risk or potentially die. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Chipkin

Silver Spring, MD

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathryn Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** This is a travesty! NO on replace and repeal!

We have huge problems in the US right now, and you are wasting yet more time and taxpayer money to repeal something that the majority of Americans have come to support. FIX the problems - there are many thoughtful suggestions out there - and move on to infrastructure and jobs!

And NO, this is not how Obama did ACA. There were dozens of hearings, lots of public comment, and input from all the major players in the US. You are ramming this through simply because your rich donors are holding on to their \$\$ until you accomplish "something."

You had seven years to work on a real plan for reforming health care, yet you did not take the time for a thoughtful process. You are all like eighth-graders who never did the homework and are now doing an all-night cram session.

I can't even imagine how much time and money will be wasted if this bill passes. Not to mention the tens of millions of people who will be knocked off Medicaid and lose health insurance coverage.

I have ACA coverage, and at 62 with pre-existing conditions, I NEED this coverage for three more years.

Stop playing cravenly to your base and do something to fix ACA, not destroy it.

Kathryn Allen  
[REDACTED]

Menands, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Harlow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear elected officials,

Please do not vote under pressure from anyone or any business. Please vote with a clear conscience. We, the people you were elected to represent, deserve a Bipartisan Congress to thoughtfully plan and consider our health and the costs for our well being. If it takes three months, six months, or a year, reach across the aisles to correct the errors and get it right. Please.

Sincerely,  
Mary Harlow  
Nassawadox, VA  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jennifer Labruzzo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy , scheduled for Monday, September 25th

The Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy scheduled for Monday, September 25th  
Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
Monday, September 25, 2017 : 02:00 pm, 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Jennifer Labruzzo  
[REDACTED]  
North Brunswick NJ  
[REDACTED]

Sixteen patient and provider groups oppose the so-called Graham-Cassidy proposal put forward by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Dean Heller (R-Nev.), and Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) that will negatively impact patients' access to adequate and affordable health coverage and care.

This bill would limit funding for the Medicaid program, roll back important essential health benefit protections, and potentially open the door to annual and lifetime caps on coverage, endangering access to critical care for millions of Americans. These organizations urge senators to oppose this legislation.

Affordable, adequate care is *vital* to the patients represented by these organizations. This legislation fails to provide Americans with what they need to maintain their health. In fact, much of the proposal just repackages the problematic provisions of the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), or Trumpcare, which these groups also opposed.

These organizations, instead, strongly support the bipartisan hearings spearheaded by Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-Wash.) in the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and by Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) in the Senate Finance Committee. These hearings, focused on market stabilization and other critical issues, represent a modest, yet promising first step towards addressing our nation's health care challenges. Bipartisan agreement on the Children's Health Insurance Program also represents a welcome return to regular order, and we applaud the committees for undertaking this critical work.

Join these organizations and urge Congress to continue this important bipartisan effort rather than advancing proposals that would weaken access to the care Americans need and deserve. We stand ready to work with both sides of the aisle to build long-lasting bipartisan solutions both now and in the future.

Jennifer Labruzzo

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Polacheck, Stefanie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Children's Home + Aid statement for Senate Finance Committee hearing  
**Attachments:** Children's Home and Aid statement on Healthcare 9-25-17.docx

Good morning,

Please see the attached written statement from Children's Home + Aid (Illinois) for today's Senate Finance Committee hearing regarding the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.

Thank you,  
Stefanie Polacheck

Stefanie Polacheck, LCSW

[REDACTED]  
C  
Office [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rabbi Jill Zimmerman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-cassidy

Dear finance committee

Please vote no on this bill. I am not covered by an employer. I can't afford for my premiums to go up. And I surely can't afford the increase estimated of 23,000 for my rheumatoid arthritis pre-existing condition

One hearing is a joke. There should be multiple.

Thank you  
Rabbi Jill Zimmerman  
California



**Rabbi Jill Zimmerman, M.Ed.**  
The Jewish Mindfulness Network

[REDACTED] [http: \[REDACTED\]](http://[REDACTED])



Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** vanessa narad <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA

To whom it may concern,  
Please do not repeal the ACA and throw tens of millions of people off healthcare. Planned Parenthood saved my life. The ACA is keeping my friends with pre existing conditions alive. Please don't let us die. Yes the ACA isnt perfect, but it is a start. Trumpcare is a huge step back.

Thank you!

--  
Vanessa Narad Axelsen  
Encino, CA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Nelly Kaufer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I beg you to not disrupt the healthcare services before you have much greater research into the repercussions of these changes. It will destabilize millions of Americans whose lives depend upon their health care provision. It will also destabilize our economy.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Ellen Kaufer

[REDACTED]  
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Whitney Wheeler <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My Healthcare Story

A little over one year ago my 15 year old child had a stroke as a result of arterial venous malformation. We went through multiple brain surgeries and expensive brain scans. He has to receive a MRI and MRA every 6 months with an angiogram every 12-18 months. All of these are extremely costly. He is now covered under the Medicaid expansion. Even though I have employer provided insurance I cannot afford the co-pay. Further, he is still unable to walk or talk which requires ongoing rehabilitation. I cannot afford to lose his insurance. I fear his pre-existing condition may no longer be covered or they will cap his insurance due to the extreme costs which total over \$1 million. Please help me to fight to save our healthcare, not just for my child but for everyone!

Thank You,

Whitney Wheeler

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Emily Koon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Obamacare repeal

I do not support the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. More than 1 million people in my state could lose coverage, while premiums go up for the rest of us and we lose our coverage for pre-existing conditions. It's morally abhorrent that we have to **repeatedly** ask for our healthcare to not be taken away.

- A majority of Americans oppose the bill
- The entire medical community opposes it
- The AARP opposes it
- All 50 state Medicaid directors oppose it
- Even the insurance industry thinks it's a disaster
- There has been no CBO score of the bill, even though healthcare is 20 percent of our economy

Why are Republicans proceeding with a bill that is so roundly opposed and so clearly harmful?

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** donald carcich <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

People with disabilities rely on Medicaid and cuts will jeopardize our health. My name is Donald Carcich and I strongly oppose the bill because of my loved ones and people I care for.

Sincerely

Donald Carcich

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Kyndra Richardson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassity bill

Hello Senator, my name is Kyndra Richardson. I am a OTA student in Nevada. I am writing to you to let you know that:

People with disabilities rely on Medicaid for the services that enable them to live and participate in the community;

· Allowing states to waive protections for people with pre-existing conditions is allowing states to waive protections for everyone with a disability;

Please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill or any other bill that cuts, caps, or block grants Medicaid.

I am a registered voter and have voted in every Nevada election since 2009.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,  
Kyndra Richardson

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gwenith Jones <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**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. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Gwenith Jones

[REDACTED]  
Portland, OR [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Leslie Hoge <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Against Graham Cassidy

Hi,  
My husband and I are self-employed and rely on individual health insurance. Twelve years ago I was treated for cancer (and am healthy now!), so we understand how important good accessible, affordable healthcare is. The Graham Cassidy bill will not only jeopardize our ability (and our adult children's ability) to get coverage with the weakening of the preexisting/family history coverage, but also if we are able to keep our insurance, our premium costs will skyrocket.  
Currently, my husband and I pay \$1350/month for the highest-deductible bronze plan, and paying for this is a struggle. Increases will make our choices stark ones.  
Thank you!  
Leslie Hoge  
[REDACTED]

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** theresa koztics <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am vehemently opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Shame on Senator Graham and Senator Cassidy for trying to ram through this "healthcare" bill without a full CBO analysis and score. Let's find out how good or bad this bill is for the American people before it is foisted it upon them in an attempt to fulfill the empty rhetoric of "repeal and replace".

Repeal and replace is just a catchy propoganda laden tagline that discounts and tries to hide the real world ramifications of what any of these Trumpcare bills might mean to people's everyday lives and health. It also tries to disguise the real goal of this bill which isn't healthcare reform but a tax cut to the wealthy at the cost of millions of peoples lives.

Graham-Cassidy is just like all the 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.

Medicaid expansion has been a good for many states under the ACA. Which brings me to a curious thing about this faux healthcare bill. Why are states like Oregon (where I live) being punished for expanding medicaid under ACA? Yeah mostly blue states federal funding will be cut dramatically. Funding will be cut for doing the right thing for Americans, the very thing that helped people get affordable healthcare.

So how does this disengenuous bill help the American people? It doesn't! Millions will be dropped from the rolls and many will be cut out based on loosely worded, and not clearly defined pre-existing conditions provisions.

Blue Cross Blue Shield plans and the insurance lobby America's Health Insurance Plans oppose Graham-Cassidy along with health-care providers and patient advocates.

ACA is flawed legislation, so fix it! Work to fix it or a create a better bill through the committee process, bi-partisanship and regular order.

Please work together in a bipartisan process to arrive at more suitable options, such as a single payer universal healthcare program or a better hybrid single payer/private insurance system that works (see France) and most of all, put people ahead of profits!

Theresa Kosztics  
Portland, Oregon



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** MJ McConnell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare to stay well. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I am a professional actor and don't have one steady job to provide me with health insurance. My "work weeks" for various arts organizations either add up to qualify me for coverage under my union's policy or they don't. I am turning 62 in a couple of weeks. I served as a Captain in the US Army Nurse Corps. Don't make it more difficult for me to get/keep insurance.

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

Mary Jo McConnell  
Brooklyn, NY

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Elizabeth Burns <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday, September 25

I have had a pre-existing condition since I was six years old. I am now 58. I have had asthma and allergies, and have been treated for them with medications and hospitalizations. I also have severe depression, for which I have been treated with ECT and medication. I pay for my Medicare coverage and a supplementary insurance. Last year, I made under \$12,000. If I lose healthcare for pre-existing conditions, I will die. I am a contributing member of this American society. I am a writer and a part-time tutor of businessmen in a global industry. I volunteer with women experiencing homelessness. I am the single mother of two daughters with disabilities--one severe. My ex-husband has severe mental illness, and is not able to help in the care of my daughters. Please consider the effects of this inhumane bill you are considering.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Burns, Ph.D.

--  
Elizabeth Burns

"An artist cannot fail; it is a success to be one." --C.H. Cooley

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Monica Hansel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing about the Graham-Cassidy bill, proposing changes to the ACA. I oppose the drastic cuts in this bill and write on my behalf as well as on behalf of anyone who has benefitted from the ACA - my fellow Americans who are undergoing cancer treatment, women who are able to get birth control for free (I am one of them), and most of all the elderly and other vulnerable populations.

As Senator John McCain has stated, we need a bipartisan solution. Moreover, Senators Collins and Nelson are already working on one. Let's end the madness and get to work. Graham-Cassidy will not solve any issues with the ACA. People will die.

Sincerely,  
Monica Hansel

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Alison Hamilton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham concerns

TO: Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden & Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I never expected to have a child on Medicaid. But then, I never expected to have a child with disabilities.

When our daughter, Elise, was five weeks old, a distracted driver ran a red light and T-boned our minivan. It broke my pelvis, rendering me unable to walk unassisted for three months. But our newborn was gravely injured; her diagnosis, long and complicated: skull fracture, C-spine injury, severe traumatic brain injury, microcephaly, cortical visual impairment, feeding difficulties necessitating a G-tube.

After almost a month on life-support in the ICU, our pediatric neurosurgeon warned us that she may never learn to hold up her own head. However thanks to the ongoing therapy she receives, she's giving us a reason to hope. Now, more than ever, it is easy to see the sweet spirit inside her who is so eager and motivated to love, move and communicate.

Elise has private health insurance, but it covers only a fraction of the therapy and equipment needs to keep her alive and allow her to progress. In Texas, we are already suffering the consequences of Medicaid cuts. All her therapists have seen a reduction in their salaries. Just last week, our occupational therapist said that she's no longer able to treat Elise because the company she works for is making cuts by reducing their service area. We live between Dallas and Fort Worth, so Elise will have other provider options. However a child like her in a more rural area may not.

If the Cassidy-Graham bill passes, it could truly be a death sentence for medically complex children. Without the Medicaid waiver that Elise is on, which allows us to afford quality care for her in our loving home (while also saving the state money), she may have to be institutionalized in the future.

Please consider the most vulnerable - but still VALUABLE - of your constituents. Please remember that, like us, you or your loved ones could need these life-saving services tomorrow. None of us knows what our future holds. Please realize that this is a pro-life issue, protecting these precious lives and giving them the best shot at a brighter, more productive, better future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alison Hamilton  
[REDACTED]

Southlake, TX [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Erin Moriarty-Siler <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No On Graham-Cassidy -- Comments from The Bell Policy Center  
**Attachments:** No On Graham-Cassidy -- The Bell Policy Center.docx

We write you today to express our deep opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. Our comments are attached.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thank you.

Best,

**Erin Moriarty-Siler | Director of Communications**  
**The Bell Policy Center**

*Driving public policy change to help Colorado families get ahead and stay ahead.*

[REDACTED] | Denver, CO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

Combined Federal Campaign [REDACTED]

[Donate today](#) to help us expand opportunity for all Coloradans.  
[Join our email list](#) for policy updates, analysis, Bell news and more!

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Catherine Suski <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham Cassidy

I first understood exactly how screwed up the healthcare insurance industry was in 2012, the year I moved back to my home state of Connecticut from Colorado, where I had lived for the past 13 years. In Colorado, I had insurance under Kaiser, which doesn't offer plans in CT.

My new job in CT was Aetna, where I was going to be a contract Marketing Manager at Aetna, where they assured me this was just for a few months until the new budget year when I would be made a permanent employee. I still applied for an individual plan to tide me over, and guess what? I was denied! By Aetna! Because I had received treatment for depression within the past year.

The one positive was that I could go on a state plan than was made possible by the Affordable Care Act. It's a good thing I signed up because the month afterwards, I had to go the emergence room for severe abdominal pain. I wound needing two very expensive procedures that would have bankrupted me without insurance.

Aetna never hired me. I found out they basically tell all the contractors they will be hired to lure them in.

Fast forward to 2015, when sadly I am diagnosed with psoriatic arthritis. I now take a biologic medication which astoundingly costs 4,000 a month list price!

Thankfully I do now have a staff position with a good insurance plan. Without the protections of the ACA, I would never be able to get insurance on my own if I needed to. Even if I was offered a plan, it could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

Catherine Suski  
New Haven, CT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carrie Felton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy because access to healthcare is key to ending poverty and homelessness

The ACA isn't perfect, but it's greatest accomplishment was expanding access to healthcare to thousands of Americans.

We need solutions that DO NOT TAKE AWAY access to healthcare, but improves the healthcare system - making it run more efficiently, making it easier to navigate, and continues to save costs for ALL Americans.

As an advocate to end poverty and homelessness, I can tell you that expanding access to healthcare is a critical component in facilitating attachment to the workforce and sustaining housing stability.

VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO THIS BILL.

Carrie Felton  
Chicago, IL [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Diane Luft <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I can never support this new bill because it takes away the guarantee that persons with pre-existing illness will have access to affordable insurance. States will be allowed TO TAKE AWAY such access by allowing steeply rising prices to freeze out all but the wealthy. IN AMERICA, WORKING PEOPLE WILL BE DENIED HEALTH CARE. How can we stand for this? It is insane. Have we sunk so low? Emergency room access does NOT make this inequity acceptable - it is hugely more expensive than non-ER care and does not provide sustained treatment.

Diane Luft  
Syracuse, NY



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Moon Child <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My cancer story and my kids health story

Not sure why Trump is trying to kill us off.

If it weren't for Medicaid I would of died and my kids would of had no one to watch over them. I am in remission from stage 3 ovarian cancer . Took 4 surgeries to remove it all from 2015-2016!! For the next 5 years I need blood work done every 3 to 4 months and hopefully I am done with CT MRI and also PET scans like i did the first year.

My kids suffer from severe allergies and asthma. They get weekly shots to help them they actually get 2 shots one in each arm. They would not be able to function at school without them and they would miss a lot of school because of their allergies. They would get more sinus infections and more Dr visits because of them.

Trump and all his supporters would I be MASS MURDERS if they took our health care away!!

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** DAVE H <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care

Dear Chamber Members,

I am writing to ask you not to support the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal. This bill is wrong. It is wrong for America, it is wrong for Americans, and it goes against the basic principles on which this country was founded. What happened to "give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses"? What happened to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"? When did our government decide money was more important than people? This is a first world nation. Until recently, we were considered the leader of the free world. We are also the only country in that position without a single payer health care solution. We are going the opposite direction. Our legislators seem to believe that too many people have health care or that life is a privilege for the few.

Dave Helrich

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathie Cascio <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill. This bill would personally devastate my ability to continue to access the life saving health care I need.

First, leaving it up to states to determine if insurance will cover pre-existing conditions could leave me with no coverage or/ and unable to afford coverage because of my pre-existing conditions, one of which is my stage 5 kidney disease. I have Lupus which caused my kidneys to fail. I receive dialysis three times a week, I have heart disease and bone disease due to the high doses of predinose I had to take due to Lupus.

This bill would be devastating to me and millions like me.

The ACA is not perfect but why reinvent the wheel. There needs to be bi- partisan work on fixing the ACA instead of cutting health care for milions. The Graham-Cassidy Bill just doesn't make sense for America.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Cascio

Albany, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cheryl Boga <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: healthcare bill

As a middle-aged woman currently in a cancer treatment plan my life depends on continued access to quality, affordable healthcare. In light of my pre-existing conditions, the proposals in Graham-Cassidy essentially equate to a guarantee of a death sentence for me if my cancer were to not remain in remission. I would like this bill to be defeated, and would like to see an immediate and enthusiastic bi-partisan Congressional effort to improve the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Y. Boga  
Chinchilla, PA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** ivan talijancic <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. As a matter of fact, **my life depends on it.** Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I'm a low-income freelance worker in the non-profit sector, and have a chronic condition that requires ongoing medical care -- if I lose coverage due to multifold increase in cost and unattainable access -- which provisions of this cruel, discriminatory and inhumane bill would ensure, I will lose my health, my ability to work, and most likely die. Therefore, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Ian Tallin  
New York, NY

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tara Veneracion <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham Cassidy

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy Bill. The ENTIRE medical industry is opposed to the bill. All of them. There have been no public hearings, no CBO score, there is no debate. It is disgraceful. Without a BIPARTISAN effort to fix healthcare, we will have a nation more angry, more divided. This bill has the support of 20% of America. 20%. And the only reason the 20% like it is because it repeals something President Obama did. Their support has zero to do with the bill's substance. Any politician who wants to force upon 80% the fragile egos of the 20%, has no soul.

Thank you,  
Tara Veneracion

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ginny Canavan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** We oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Senate Finance Committee Members,

My husband and I are 74 and 67, respectively, covered by a Medicare Advantage plan. We have a 27-year-old-granddaughter who is covered by the current ACA, because her workplace does not provide health care coverage. We are fortunate because, **at this moment**, we are not experiencing any tragic situation like so many American families who currently have extreme health issues or need support from Medicaid.

Note that I said, **at this moment**. But, **at this moment**, my granddaughter is driving to work and could be involved in a terrible car accident, not only requiring immediate extensive medical treatment, but possibly continued treatment the rest of her life. **At this moment**, my husband is taking his morning walk and could have a stroke which would require long term recovery and possibly life time additional care requiring support from Medicaid.

However, because we have current Medicare and ACA insurance -- which by definition is a "thing providing protection of possible eventualities" -- we are **at this moment** assured of help should either of these scenarios (or any other illness) occur.

If the Graham-Cassidy bill is approved, these assurances would be gone. If that terrible moment should occur once the Graham-Cassidy Bill is enacted, our lives would be torn asunder.

The Graham-Cassidy bill is a cruel, cruel proposition. Can this government in good conscience turn its back on the majority of the American people? To paraphrase President Trump, will the Senate tell us to "Go to hell, you sons of bitches?"

Virginia Canavan  
Donald Canavan

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

Just wanted express my major concern about our current health care in this country. My husband retired in 2013 and we utilized ACA for insurance. He passed away July 2014. Since that time, I have been utilizing ACA (which does need some modifications). Because of my fight with Diabetes and a few other issues, I have needed/required additional health care and have been able to get what is needed (for the most part) with ACA. The repeal of ACA will mean that I will no longer be able to obtain health care (cannot afford it) and I will most likely subsequently die due to lack of medical care. Please do not allow someone else's success in life (someone who can afford needed health care) to become a detriment to others who have also worked all their lives but have not made the amount of income that can sustain him/her with costly health care costs. I am disheartened to think that this country has come to the place that we are now but you were elected to support our wishes and we do expect that you will consider the overall desires/opinions of your constituencies.

Thank you,  
Anetta Roberts



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Catherine Brist <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Graham Cassidy health care bill that is currently before the Senate. I am disturbed that the Senate would even consider voting on such important legislation without first submitting it to a full CBO analysis. Previous repeal bills would have left millions of Americans without health insurance. How can you decide to support this one without knowing how your constituents will be affected?

In addition, I am strongly opposed to the cuts this bill will make to Medicaid. I am a teacher, and many of my students with disabilities rely on Medicaid funding in order to receive the services that they need to succeed in school. Any bill that would take away funding for those services will hurt my students, and I urge you to vote against it.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to fix our health care system. Instead of scrambling to pass this bill through the reconciliation process, please work across the aisle with your colleagues to draft a bill that will improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Catherine Brist  
Madison, WI [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lilian Mehrel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have personally experienced how illness can strike at random and ruin lives, and we need our country's protection to keep healthcare affordable and available.

My young and athletic father got a shocking advanced cancer diagnosis out of the blue. He was in excellent health and it was completely unexpected. If you think it can't happen to you, think again. If you think being financially secure will protect you from the fallout of unconscionable policies like Graham-Cassidy, think again. My father is a physician and surgeon - a very financially secure profession. Now because of his cancer, my father can no longer work. Even with top-notch insurance, he has to meet large medical deductible costs. If Graham-Cassidy passes, insurance companies like my father's can charge cancer patients upwards of \$150,000 in premiums per year, making health insurance and treatment unaffordable. My father supports his family, with a wife and two children. Without health insurance, we would be ruined. He would no longer be able to receive treatment and we would have no hope of seeing him get through this.

Like I said, this can happen to anyone at any time. Nobody is safe from the injustice of random illness, especially cancer. I would never wish this on anyone but if it happens to you or someone you love, I know you would want them to be able to get the healthcare they deserve.

I ask of you - please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill with us. Represent the American people who need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve our healthcare and the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lilian Mehrel

Miami, FL

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Annelise Kelly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy

Ladies and Gentlemen:

**I oppose Graham-Cassidy** for so many reasons. I will be brief.

- It will diminish health care access
- It will NOT protect people with pre-existing conditions from excess cost or exclusion
- It will eliminate necessary subsidies
- It is inhumane
- It has not been subject to thorough research and debate
- The artificial construct of the temporary simple majority vote is short-sighted and ill-conceived

McCain is right: anything passed with false urgency and inadequate debate is guaranteed to be overturned when the political tides turn. Please don't waste your time and resources, which are my time and resources as a citizen

**I support Medicare for All.** Healthcare is a human right. EVERY other "advanced" nation agrees. Health insurance companies have been profiting off of pain for too long, they do not deserve government protection.  
**End profit-driven health care.**

Thanks for listening!

Annelise Kelly  
[REDACTED]

Portland Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leeann Ford <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy public testimony

My husband has two different inherited chronic health conditions that would make insurance impossible to afford under this plan. Because of the protections under the ACA, he is able to get the care he needs without potentially bankrupting us.

We need strong protections for pre-existing conditions so that people with these diagnoses can still have an acceptable quality of life.

Leeann Ford  
Eugene, OR

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jean Carlomusto <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We are living in fear that our healthcare will be decimated by the provisions in this bill. Instead of just throwing together a bill that hurts and divides us, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Jean Carlomusto  
New York, NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joey Eisen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee, as a finance professional myself I implore you to vote **NO** on Graham-Cassidy.

Joseph C. Eisen, CPA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paulette Weininger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal & Replace - NO!!!!

Every healthcare organization says no!

The American people say no!

Please take the politics out of this and do what's right.

How about "Fix & Re-name" ? Will that make people happy?

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jessica Martucci <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill is a travesty

I'm writing as a concerned citizen whose life will be greatly impacted should the Graham-Cassidy Bill go through.

My sister is 31 years old. When she was 28 she was diagnosed with breast cancer. We have no prior family history of breast cancer and the news came as a major shock. It was made worse by the fact that my sister had only just started a new job after completing a master's degree at Penn State. She had not been at the job long enough to get health insurance, but luckily she had been able to purchase a health plan through the exchange established by Obamacare. That insurance saved her life, and it continues to save her life as she gets screenings twice a year and has to continue to take medication for up to 10 years after her diagnosis to reduce the chances of the cancer returning.

As for me, well, I am a breadwinner in my family and yet at the age of 36 I am now faced with my own difficult health situation. Just this month I was diagnosed with ovarian tumors and will have to undergo surgery to remove them. I am hoping, of course, that they are benign. How terrible it would be if I were to become very sick, like my sister. How much more terrible it would be if I become sick and, when my temporary one-year position at the University of Pennsylvania ends, I am unable to find insurance coverage for myself or my family. How terrible it would be if I were to be unable to ever get reasonable health insurance again due to this "pre-existing condition," and how terrible it would be if I had knew that my survival would drain my family and my child's future of possibility and resources. How very, horribly terrible this whole effort to take away health insurance is. The Graham-Cassidy Bill is a travesty that will cost LIVES, actual real human lives. Although the lawmakers in this country don't seem to care much for human life these days, I do. And I value my sister's life, and my daughter's life and the lives of million other Americans who are just trying to do their best each day. We are a rich nation, we are a blessed nation, this Bill flies in the face of everything we stand for. It cannot come to pass.

Thank you for listening to my story.

Best,

Jessica Martucci  
Lansdowne, PA [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Deidrr Yapalater <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Stop it now- it's not healthcare- it will mean death,poverty,misery and overwhelming challenges for those who need healthcare the most Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Reagan Jauch <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Heller Bill

Hello,

My name is Reagan Jauch. My son, Will, was born in May 2012. He is our fourth child. He was born with a chromosome deletion called Phelan McDermid syndrome. [REDACTED] He has global developmental delays, several birth defects, and relies on a feeding tube for nutrition. He has had 8 surgeries to correct these birth defects.

In 2013, when Will was 18 months old he was diagnosed with liver cancer. He needed surgery on his liver and 4 months of chemo. He is currently in remission.

Will is the light of our family. We have primary insurance through my husbands's employer but Medicaid helps us take care of Will at home where he belongs with his siblings and afford his medical supplies.

Please do not pass this bill. Losing any Medicaid funding would greatly affect our ability to take care of our son and we cannot lose protections on pre existing conditions..

Thank you for your time.

Reagan Jauch  
[REDACTED]  
Wauwatosa, WI [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** John Knudsen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GOP Healthcare Bill

I wish to go on record as an unequivocal opponent of the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. If passed, millions will face the loss of health coverage, and those with pre-existing conditions and long-term illnesses will lose protections on which they currently rely to survive. Moreover, elderly Americans in nursing homes may lose the medicaid subsidies on which they depend. People will die. Simply put, this bill is cruel. It does nothing to improve the healthcare of the American people, and it will only unleash unimaginable suffering for no other purpose than political expediency.

Today every Senator must represent ALL Americans, and I urge every one -- Republican and Democratic -- to vote against this horrific bill.

Sincerely, John Knudsen  
Lebanon CT, [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

The Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill would rob millions of Americans of health care. Poor women would be hit the hardest.

Please do everything in your power to defeat this bill.

Thank you,

Amy L. Harris  
Lebanon, CT

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lori Dorn <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Senate Committee on Finance  
Attn. Editorial and Document Section  
Rm. SD-219  
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Gentlemen and Gentlewomen of the Senate Finance Committee,

As you consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, please be aware that this bill is very unpopular amongst constituents. Additionally an increasing number of health related organizations such as the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and many others have made their concerns about the bill public.

This healthcare bill would be a cruel and thoughtless move for the American people. 32 million people will be left uninsured and fearing for their lives. People with pre-existing conditions could be denied coverage with waivers and/or unaffordable rates, plus lifetime caps can leave constituents without the care they need after that cap is reached.

Additionally, highly populated areas in mostly blue states would have to fund more rural areas in mostly red states, taking necessary funds away from constituents in these urban areas.

Furthermore, the bill decimates Planned Parenthood, a vital health provider in poorer areas around the country and is a blatant act against the legal right of any woman to be in control of her own body. Abortion has never been federally funded and will never be so, but the health services that Planned Parenthood provides are essential to lower income families.

Healthcare is not something that needs to be rushed through in order to meet an artificial deadline. Please vote "No" on this bill and seek to find a bipartisan solution.

I thank you for your time.

Lori R. Dorn

New York, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Vally Dikovitskaya <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 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. I am 24, and on my parents' insurance right now, which they have through their employers. If the Graham-Cassidy bill goes through, my parents' employers will no longer be required to provide health insurance, which covers myself and my brother (16 y.o.). Fortunately, we are healthy, but anything could happen at any time.

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

Sincerely,  
Valeria Dikovitskaya  
[REDACTED]  
Cambridge, MA [REDACTED]

PS - My folks live in Boulder, CO.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Perkins <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no

Healthcare bill is ill conceived. Would harm too many Americans; deny coverage to those who need it most. And end up costing us all.

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anthony Kelley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; Oman Myrm  
**Subject:** Dear Senators, please vote "No" on Graham-Cassidy.

Political maneuvering at the expense of American citizens' well-being is not only morally despicable, but constitutionally reprehensible.

Please vote "no" on the Graham-Cassidy health care proposal.

Hoping that your conscience sees the light of day,  
Anthony Kelley



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mandy Hoy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Access to good, quality, affordable health care, without penalty for pre-existing conditions, means that people like my son, who was born with a congenital eye abnormality, can continue to receive the health care (surgery, in his case) that they need and in a safe and timely manner. Make sure that good health is not available only for the rich. Defeat the G-C bill, and fix the ACA.

Sincerely,  
Mandy Hoy  
Charlottesville Va

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** C Baron <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not pass Gramham Cassidy healthcare

There is NOTHING good in this for anyone except GOP donors. When Mrs Clinton put forward her healthcare solution in the 1990s, the GOP response came from Bob Dole who proposed Obamacare! This was a good idea based on free markets. The majority of Americans want universal healthcare, but you'll never give us what we want....the place we want our taxes to go. I'm furious that you keep threatening MY life. I have had 31 surgeries, most of which we have had to pay for 100% ourselves because I had endometriosis which was a pre-existing condition. No covered mammograms, annual pelvic exams, etc. Please stop this absolute nonsense about repeal.

My husband has had insurance through the market. Now we have private insurance, and it is more expensive. Your bill, your ideas about repeal do nothing but give tax cuts for your donors, takes money from my state for red States. Unacceptable.

Please stabilize the markets. Please care about us. About the poor. Right now, GOP, you completely suck. Get it together it 2018, every GOP person will be voted out.

Connie Baron.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Martha Lammers <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

My grandson has type 1 Diabetes—VERY inconvenient for a junior High student but at least he has financial coverage with his parents now. But what happens in a few more years if Graham-Cassidy passes?

I know I'm just one voice, but please listen to the governors and Medical organizations.

Sincerely, Martha Lammers

Pleasant Hill TN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

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.

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julia ADS Bookkeeping & Tax <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 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.

Julia Long  
San Antonio, Texas

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Nanette Keiser <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Finance Committee Members:

The ACA needs some tweaks, granted.

However it is working for the most part, especially in states where Medicaid was expanded.

This new proposed bill wipes out protections for those with lifelong conditions (like no lifelong caps) and no increased premiums for pre-existing conditions. It wipes out a set of essential coverages (well care, etc.) that every decent policy should have and for the long term should bring down costs for all of us. States will go with the minimum requirements whenever they can.

We have a niece with Dravet's, an incredibly awful version of epilepsy. She has severe disabilities due to this disease. Because of the ACA she is covered through age 26 on her dad's coverage. After that she will need to be covered on something like the ACA or Medicaid. Her parents should not be bankrupted in order to take care of her.

My dad is being treated for several cardiac issues. Thank God he has good insurance, so that he can obtain the testing and treatment needed. Our brother's insurance paid for his 40 radiation treatments, and his cancer is in remission. He couldn't afford the 200,000 for this.

The list is endless.

Senators, please please work on a bipartisan solution rather than this very cruel bill.

Nanette and Jack Keiser

Dr. Nanette M. Keiser, Ed.D.  
Community Volunteer, Retired Foundation Executive

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone SE

Hope you have a peaceful day.

Nanette

Dr. Nanette M. Keiser, Ed.D.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Nancy Smith-Watson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy

Esteemed Committee members:

In my family of six siblings, I alone escaped heart problems. One of my brothers, adds to that, his struggles with sarcoidosis - a disease commonly found in healthcare workers. Nor has our family escaped the grim shadow of cancer. I know that, at any moment their lives could be turned upside down. Without health insurance, the only choice is death or an entire life spent bankrupt or sweating to pay back impossible debts.

My nephew's family has just now, ten years after his brain tumor was removed, finished paying his debts that weren't covered by their insurance.

My husband finds himself employed year to year, not sure if he will still have a job next year. The loss of his job would leave us uninsured.

Please, do not pass Graham/Cassidy. As many, many American families do, we understand the emotional agony coupled with the financial disaster that an accident or illness can visit on your life at any moment. Please, work together, across the aisle to find solutions to the problems of the ACA. Do not repeal and replace it with this terrible bill.

Thank-you,

Nancy Smith-Watson  
[REDACTED]

--  
Nancy Smith-Watson  
Project Director  
Feast of Crispian: Shakespeare with Veterans

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dennis Adams <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Buying votes?

Shame on you all. This action is the worst that America has to offer. It is the antithesis of all that Americans trust and believe in. Shame.

Sent from my iPad



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Ebeling <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Citizen comments on the Graham Cassidy Health "Care" Bill

Dear U.S. Senate Finance Committee chair,

I am writing as a Citizen and as a Voter to express my deep concern about and staunch opposition to the proposed Graham-Cassidy Health "care" Bill. Again, Congress has bypassed the democratic process, by not submitting it to debate, to try and put through a bill quickly in order to take away the rights of U.S. citizens once again by taking away their access to affordable and truly protective health care. This proposed bill, far from "caring" for our health will cut federal funding for health care, reinstate life-time caps and the conditions for pre-existing conditions. This Bill, like all of the other FAILED GOP health care bills preceding, will yet again disenfranchise millions of Americans from a fundamental right, at least a right that is recognized in all other countries, the right to health care.

Please take the medical advice of America's leading physicians, hospitals and medical associations, and kill this bill!

Thank you,

Mary Ebeling  
a voter and citizen in Philadelphia, PA [REDACTED]

Mary Ebeling  
mobile/cell: [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robert Olivo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care Repeal Bill

Robert E. Olivo  
[REDACTED]  
Swartz Creek, MI  
[REDACTED]

September 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

Hello my name is Robert Olivo, I am 39 years and I have Limbgirdle Muscular Dystrophy (Diagnosed -11 years ago) and I reside from Swartz Creek, Michigan and I am writing to tell all Senators to protect my health care.

Millions of families will lose coverage if Congress votes to repeal Obamacare.

Premiums will double from families like mine. I urge all Senators to vote NO on final passage of the senate health care repeal bill.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

*Robert E. Olivo*

Robert E. Olivo

Robert E. Olivo  
10297 W. Reid Rd.  
Swartz Creek, MI [REDACTED]  
cell: [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** J. Chase <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

To whom this may concern,

I request senator Lisa Murkowski and senator Collins vote No on the Graham Cassidy healthcare bill.

Best,  
Jessica Chase

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Casey Bazarewski <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Comments

To the Senate:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a mental health professional, I see clients everyday who have benefitted from the ACA themselves or have had family members make it through an illness they otherwise would not have been able to afford treatment for. I, myself, have benefitted from the ACA in that I have been able to remain on my parents' Insurance while in graduate school and now that I'm just beginning my career.

It is time for a bipartisan effort to strengthen and protect the Affordable Care Act. We cannot afford to repeal a law that helps so many Americans. No American should die just because they can't afford treatment.

Sincerely,

Casey Bazarewski

Troy, MI

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ela Troyano <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not finance Graham-Cassidy

Hi,

My name is Ela Troyano and I'm writing not just on my behalf but also for my family, and close friends. At least three persons from my family and close friends have a pre-existing condition. I have high blood pressure.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would affect us directly.

But I'm not concerned just for immediate family and close friends. This new bill has not been rated with a CBO score; it has not been debated in Congress. It is a politically driven bill which no one seems to think works, no one is defending the bill on its merits.

Passage of the Graham-Cassidy bill will affect ALL Americans and will have unforeseen repercussions. It will be disastrous for children, seniors, the poor--the most vulnerable.

This bill will force each state to come up with their own health care within two years.

Please think of the consequences of Graham-Cassidy; and if you want to vote for it, at least do so AFTER a CBO score, after the repercussions and effects have been more carefully thought through.

We deserve better decision making from those who represent us.

Thank you,

Ela Troyano

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Bell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because it is being rushed through without having information about how it will affect Americans who need health care. Don't do this for the wrong reasons - protect the vulnerable and fix problems where problems exist but please don't create more.

Sarah Bell

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Christine Primomo <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Graham-Cassidy will "result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage [and] destabilize health insurance markets." I am an RN and I oppose this bill.

--  
Christine Primomo cell [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Becky Kolk <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 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. I am a single mom with pre-existing conditions. I work full time in California, and qualify for the medicaid expansion for my kids, as well as the subsidy for my premium. If I were to lose this, I will not be able to pay for my health insurance and my children's health insurance. The last time I paid before we qualified for Medicaid, was \$372.00 per child. Also having a pre-existing condition and having tests this week that could determine cancer, losing my insurance or an increase in premiums would devastate my children's life and my life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Rebecca S. Kolk

[REDACTED]  
Torrance, CA [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Barbara Hughes <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Barbara Hughes  
**Subject:** WHY I OPPOSE THE GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL

ATTN: Senate Finance Committee

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I want to see the U.S. enact a single payer healthcare program, because healthcare is a RIGHT, not a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder. I want everyone to be free of the financial stress that aggravates every single medical concern that people have, making it even more difficult to regain their health.

If it had not been for being able to obtain Medicaid starting in 2014, I would not have been able to go through several surgeries for breast cancer (biopsy, mastectomy, multiple reconstructions) being able to focus ONLY on my healing without financial stress. I had spent years, starting in 2001, paying \$300 per month for a group health insurance plan for self-employed individuals that was woefully inadequate. I couldn't even AFFORD to see a doctor in all those years, because the insurance would pay only \$60 PER QUARTER for any doctor visits. Often, coverage of lab tests was denied, or the insurance company would deny coverage for certain services based on the location or time of day. Once I had an overnight sleep test done. Insurance would pay for only one day of the test, even though it was ONE service. Once I had to have an insect removed from my ear at an urgent care clinic. Insurance denied coverage because it was "surgery" done in a doctor's office instead of a hospital. I should also add that I OFTEN had to seek financial assistance from family members just to pay for this insurance each and every month... this insurance that didn't even come close to meeting my medical needs. But of course, I had to hang onto it. To let it lapse, I'd be risking not being able to get insurance in the future for pre-existing conditions! But starting in 2014, I was finally able to qualify for the expanded Medicaid program in my state of Washington and was finally able to start seeing a doctor for regular visits and obtain tests that I had put off for years. That's when the breast cancer was discovered. Thank God that it was! Thank MEDICAID that it was!!!

My experience with Medicaid is an experience that I would wish for every single person in this country. I never had to worry about paying a co-pay at any doctor visits or meeting deductibles. My prescriptions were always free. It even allowed me to see a Naturopath as my primary care physician! It allowed me to focus ONLY on my health and recovery from surgeries, not on the stress of wondering how I was ever going to pay for the medical care I was receiving. The ONE and only drawback was the limited number of doctors and medical services available to choose from. This is how a single payer system would improve on that situation: ALL doctors and ALL services would be included in the system. No one would have to choose between getting the best care vs. going bankrupt!

This year, in March, I turned 65. I have been forced to go onto Medicare. Medicare does NOT cover Naturopathic physicians, so I have been forced to find a new doctor who is much less suitable for my needs, and I had an extremely small pool of doctors to choose from. I still qualify for Medicaid, so I have what is called "dual eligibility." The paperwork and bureaucracy has been a nightmare. Being on Medicare/Medicaid is not anywhere close to being as stress-free as just being in the expanded Medicaid program. And now I have to pay for prescriptions. It's a relatively small amount, but it's not free. Also, I may still need to have one more reconstruction surgery, and I am not looking forward to the stress of dealing with my new coverage on top of recovering from the surgery.

From 2014 through February of 2017 -- three years -- I experienced the most sane, sensible, and humane healthcare coverage that this country has ever offered. The only limitation was the small number of providers available to choose from. Now that I am combining Medicaid with Medicare, I have inched back closer to the nightmarish scenario that almost everyone else in this country has to deal with: essentially, as I already mentioned, it amounts to having to choose between HEALTHCARE and BANKRUPTCY. Medicare, if it is going to be available for ALL, is going to have to be vastly improved. But my primary reason for writing to you is to make the case for NOT eliminating Medicaid.

The Graham-Cassidy bill will potentially ELIMINATE Medicaid, and that would be a disaster of the greatest magnitude for this country. I SUFFERED from extremely limited healthcare and great financial stress from 2001 up until 2014. Prior to 2001, I had been covered by various employer healthcare plans, which were adequate to a greater or lesser degree over the years, and I paid the outrageous COBRA fees for a few months before obtaining my inadequate group coverage for

self-employed individuals. But to eliminate Medicaid altogether, even if it is done in a "gradual" way, is brutal... unconscionable... lacking in foresight... it will punish people for being or getting sick... and it will condemn the people of this country to a situation of financial enslavement and poor health that is unspeakable.

PEOPLE have a right to exist on this earth and in this country, and they have a RIGHT to healthcare. "Health insurance companies" do NOT have an inherent right to exist. (I put them in quotation marks because I do not believe they are even legitimate entities.) To keep the service of healthcare in the "free market" goes against the spirit of all the other public services this country provides, such as education, police and fire protection, libraries, etc. "Opening up healthcare to the free market" is NOT the answer to HEALING our healthcare system or our people. That will only serve to perpetuate the vast gap between the Haves and the Have-Nots. We must REVERSE the concept of healthcare as a for-profit endeavor.

The Graham-Cassidy MUST NOT PASS!!!

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Hughes  
Vancouver, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Everon Media <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Jane Hare  
**Subject:** Trumpcare is un-American

Dear fellow American:

Why is our president trying to pass a replacement to the Affordable Care Act simply to "UNDO" something he doesn't like?

Time needs to be spent to do this right. We have brilliant medical and business minds who could come together in a great program but the president insists on doing this now.

What is the rush? His lack of patience should not penalize all of us.

Trumpcare is a poor excuse for a revised health care policy.

Jane Hare  
American  
Small business owner  
Person with a pre-existing condition

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bobbiejo Winfrey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 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.

Medicaid has helped me in the care of my multivisceral transplant which has given me almost another 12 years of life so far. I could not have made it though without adequate medical cover.

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.

Miss. Bobbiejo Winfrey

[REDACTED]  
Louisville, KY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** LL [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** health care bill

please vote NO on this horrendous bill.

thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amanda Moffitt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:17 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill

Hello,

It is my wish that you vote NO to the Graham-Cassidy bill, it is still not a feasible alternative to the ACA and would be detrimental to hundreds of thousands of people.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Moffitt  
A Concerned Citizen

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jessica Friscia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Daughter of Cancer Patient LOUDLY Saying NO to Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern:

My family has relied on quality, affordable healthcare in order to care for my mother and grandfather, who both were diagnosed and passed away from metastatic cancer within the last year. Our coverage allowed us to give my mom the best possible treatments to extend her time with us and improve her quality of life as she battled broken bones and otherwise-insufferable pain related to her Stage IV liver cancer diagnosis.

The Graham-Cassidy bill, as it stands, would allow insurers to force people with preexisting conditions to pay more. According to an analysis by the Center for American Progress, those with metastatic cancer could expect surcharges of more than \$140,000. If my family were faced with those surcharges, I am unsure how we could have provided for our mother during her last few months.

In her memory, I ask that instead a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it, be considered that would provide affordable health insurance for all Americans so that no one will have to choose between bankruptcy and caring for their loved ones.

Thank you,  
Jessica Friscia  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Janet Montgomery [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill hearing, September 25, 2017

From: Janet Montgomery  
[REDACTED]

I am outraged to read in the Washington Post that this bill has been revised to offer additional monies to Maine and Alaska to entice Senators Collins and Murkowski to vote for the bill. We need a healthcare solution for all Americans, equally and fairly. This is a shameful move that should not be allowed.

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gilly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO

I am a constituent in CT. Voting yes would be devastating for me and my small family of 3, who can hardly afford to stay afloat as it is with our premiums. My nephew was just diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. My other nephew has a peanut allergy and sees a specialist. My mom has rheumatoid arthritis. My sister has fibromyalgia. These pre existing conditions would go untreated without insurance, and insurance would become unattainable for them due to the price.

Please vote no!! People will die!

Gillian Nolan

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Martin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear legislators,

The Graham Cassidy Bill is morally reprehensible and finally irresponsible. This who vote "yes" on this newest iteration of Trumpcare will be remembered in the history books — and the next election — as anti-American.

The medical profession has come out in opposition to it, as have the majority of the voting citizens in this country.

Please do not allow this bill to pass.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Martin  
Arlington, MA  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Danette Shepard Onofrio [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 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.

[Your name]  
[City, State]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Carrie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham Cassidy. It's a disaster for all Americans

I write to discourage the Senate from bringing the Graham Cassidy bill to a vote. This bill is a disaster for all Americans. Red or blue, this GCH is a terrible deal even with last-minute attempted bribery of Senators Murkowski and Collins.

Your hypocrisy is apparent in the extent that this bill will cut funding for children and the elderly. I remain incredulous that you're willing to shoot your constituents in the foot. Please reconsider before drastically reshaping the US healthcare system. At a minimum, you are abdicating responsibility as lawmakers by failing to wait for a CBO score before considering the vote.

End this farce now. If you must act like lemmings, please don't drag the country down with you.

Thank you.

--

Carrie Netzer Wajda

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dee Casteel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

"Worst healthcare bill yet," says the American Nurses Association.  
It "violates the precept of 'first do no harm'" and "would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage," says the AMA.  
It "would erode key protections for patients and consumers," says the American Hospital Association.

David Leonhardt  
David Leonhardt  
Op-Ed Columnist

Defenders of the new Trumpcare — the Graham-Cassidy bill — are telling Jimmy Kimmel to be quiet and leave the health policy debate to the experts. So I wanted to give you a quick rundown this morning of what the experts are saying about the bill:

It "violates the precept of 'first do no harm'" and "would result in millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage." – American Medical Association, which represents doctors.  
It is "the worst healthcare bill yet." – American Nurses Association.  
It "would erode key protections for patients and consumers." – American Hospital Association.  
The process in the Senate is just as bad as the substance. ... Most Americans wouldn't buy a used car with this little info.

I'm concerned about friends and family with pre-existing conditions including diabetes.

If you vote for this bill, you clearly declare that you are NOT interested in doing the best for the most Americans.

Dee Casteel

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joe Hanson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please stop this latest health care bill!

Please stop this health care bill! Taking away health insurance from over 30 million Americans to give the gop donors a tax break is a crime against humanity.

Thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Joe Hanson  
Portland, OR

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sara Taylor <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** wydenzzwebrespond99 (Wyden); Senator, noreply (Merkley)  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Sara Taylor, and I live in Portland, OR ([REDACTED]) I am also a veteran, a churchgoer, and a mother, and I am writing to express my complete lack of support the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Several of my extended family members suffer from common ailments that would be defined as preexisting conditions and would allow health insurers to charge exorbitant premiums under this bill. I don't mean expensive, lengthy illnesses like cancer, I mean arthritis and diabetes-- things that come with age, to many people. I myself have early-stage Rheumatoid Arthritis, prediabetes and a child with ADHD. The excess healthcare charges this bill could create would bankrupt my family and ruin any chance my children have to go to college, let alone successfully complete their education, take a family vacation, or even be able to afford basic necessities. This bill passing would mean serious financial insecurity for our family.

I urge you and the rest of the Senate to consider a bipartisan approach to fixing the concrete issues in the existing ACA, rather than waste time and money toying with regular Americans' lives on behalf of your corporate sponsors.

Please work to make a sensible, bipartisan effort to address the actual challenges of the ACA, rather than trying so desperately to scrap a piece of legislation that has brought security to so many Americans. As a veteran, I am profoundly disappointed in our legislators and I hope that someday I can be proud to have served again. As a mother, I am in constant panic about the future of our children because we have no way to guarantee that my loved ones' futures will be secure.

Please show some basic human decency today. Your responsibility, as mine was during my years in service to the country, is to protect all Americans, not just the wealthy ones.

Thank you for your time,  
Sara Taylor

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Justine Henning <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** why Graham-Cassidy must not pass

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.

Secondly, I was diagnosed with cancer last spring. My prognosis is pretty good, so I hope to be living with this "preexisting condition" for the next few decades.

I am an educator. My husband is a writer. We do pretty well for ourselves, given that we're both in professions that don't tend to pay particularly well. But money is tight, especially now (while our kids are in college) and into the future (when scraping tuition together will give way to scraping some kind of retirement savings together). There are no trust funds or other deep sources of wealth around here. We work and work and work and manage pretty well, most of the time.

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

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. Its protections from insurance companies wanting to raise costs for those of us with preexisting conditions are VITAL for my family.

Let me be clear, however: I also 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.

Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy and do your best to make our country a better place for everyone.

Sincerely,  
Justine Henning  
Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Wendy G Baker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No repeal

I know so many people that rely on the ACA in order to stay alive and healthy. I am strongly against the current proposal from the GOP as it will hurt/kill millions of people. I support a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA.

thank you,  
Wendy Baker  
Nyack, NY

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ambre QUINN <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Our healthcare storytelling

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I definitely believe that the root problems of US inflated medical care and drug costs, and the resulting overpriced insurance policies, inflated deductibles and copay a needs to be fixed.

However, in the meantime, hardworking people without the means to pay must NOT be left out in the cold.

My husband and I would not be able to afford insurance without the ACA. We both have college degrees and work full time. He's a career server (no employer-based insurance) and I'm a contractor (same). Before 2015, we were priced out of having any coverage. Can anyone here afford to pay 70% of their income on health insurance? And then on top of that afford not only the rest of your household bills AND the hundreds of dollars for care until you meet the sky-high deductible? We couldn't. Many people couldn't.

That's just the financial. I have a friend who was born with Type 1 Diabetes. She was in a high risk pool before the ACA and the annual bills for insurance and care were in the 5-digit range. By allowing insurance companies (or state legislators in the pocket of insurance companies) to decide which pre-existing conditions to cover (or not), we are complicit in denying coverage to people like my friend. Without health care, she will die. It's not a joke.

I was a working immigrant in France for several years and benefited from their Universal healthcare. It was amazing, and nobody I knew even thought twice about going to the doctor. Money doesn't factor into the decision AT ALL. They even have a service that provides home doctor visits 24/7. All my medical info was on a card with a chip that I took to whatever doctor I chose and they had access to my medical history to help me. Got my prescriptions,

dental care, gynecology care, general practitioner and even emergency care for so little and NEVER had to wait.

We in the US are so used to spending a lot of money and seeing 3-4(+) digit medical bills that we believe the hype that our medical care is the best in the world. But plenty of other countries have it so good they practically take it for granted.

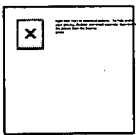
For example, French people may complain that they're over prescribed because it's so easy for people to get meds -- but they think I'm joking when I tell them about people I know who are doing GoFundMe to get their thousands of dollars of medical bills covered, or when people lose their homes because they can't afford to pay their medical bills-- or when my husband who is a career server only went to urgent care when he had to (stitches,etc) because for nearly 10 years he had no insurance -- not offered by his restaurant employer and getting a private policy is astronomically expensive.

This latest repeal bill does a nothing to address see these issues and instead (even without CBO score) is going to make insurance once again inaccessible to millions of Americans.

We can and MUST do better.

Sincerely,  
Ambre Quinn

[REDACTED]  
Minneapolis MN [REDACTED]



**Ambre Quinn**

Corporate Trainer, Instructional Designer

Eager to build on your team strengths | [REDACTED] | Professional

Video [http://\[REDACTED\]](#) | Skype: [REDACTED]

Minneapolis - Minnesota



Envoyé de mon iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Eileen Marma <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on affordable, quality health care. My son's family with children has a private insurance with a premium of \$1500/month. He has one child with special needs who should received prescribed medication, weekly behavior and speech therapy. Before the Affordable Health Care Act was passed, most of her treatment and prescriptions were denied. Medical evaluations by specialists, the weekly therapy and prescribed psychiatric medications were not covered by the insurance company. My son and his wife could not pay all of their bills, although they work full-time. In 2012, they filed for bankruptcy due to lack of insurance company's decisions not to cover the medical bills. This child has a preexisting condition and will have this all of her life.

Repeal of the Affordable Health Care Act with the proposed revisions of the Graham-Cassidy bill will increase my family's expenses without relief. I would like to see bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not to repeal it.

Sincerely,

Eileen Marma, RN  
[REDACTED]

Corvallis, OR [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Zarrella <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My Healthcare...America's Healthcare

Please think of what is right. Yes, you vowed to repeal and replace....but the replacement needs to be better! This bill is far from better. You just might find passing it having a worst effect in 2018 or 2020...than fixing the ACA. Common sense...you have that, I hope, use it!

Barbara

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Diane Blum <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill - NO!!!

Dear Finance Committee,

**The Graham Cassidy Bill would be a disaster for me and millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions.**

I have happily paid health insurance premiums for 30 years. I have needed very little health care and never met my deductible.

**THIS YEAR I WAS DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER.**

After paying for health insurance for years when I did not need it, I could now lose my insurance or pay higher premiums because I am sick. That is not the way insurance is supposed to work!

Basic guarantees like coverage for pre-existing conditions, no yearly cap, no lifetime cap, maternity coverage, cannot be left to the discretion of the individual states.

Please help disclose the very real problems with this poorly conceived, politically motivated bill.

Thank you,

Diane Blum

[REDACTED]  
Bala Cynwyd, PA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** d\*-\*b Ydobon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy/Graham

I am legally blind, in stage 5 kidney failure and on dialysis until I can get a kidney transplant - among other issues. At the moment, I have good insurance that is helping me immensely. If this bill passes, I will likely lose all access. If that happens, I might as well jump off a bridge as I could never afford the \$24,000 a month that my insurance pays for my dialysis.

This bill will wind up killing people like me.

I am begging you to work with the Democrats to fix the ACA.

Make insurance and pharmaceuticals companies base their fees on reality not profit.

It's time to get the GREED out of medicine.

If the only people you listen to are the ones who bribe you to vote their way, how honorable are you? You were elected to serve THE PEOPLE - ALL the people, not just billionaire donors. Passage of this bill would just prove how heartless and unfeeling Republicans are.

Thank you  
Viv Arney

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nabeela Merali <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My partner and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid is that my boyfriend and I were both able to have healthcare coverage for two years that allowed us both to receive quality care that was affordable and allowed me to get my thyroid issues under control and removal of a cyst found on my ovaries.

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

Sincerely,  
Nabeela Merali  
Boulder, CO



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel Kimball <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do NOT Pass 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,

Rachel Kimball

Parker, CO

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Vic Burton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No Graham Cassidy

What we need is an improved system that guarantees medical care for all. Most certainly, we do not need a plan to reduce coverage for more Americans. This plan is not a solution for anything that needs solving. Let it die where it is.

Vic Burton  
K.C., MO [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachel Altmann <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** please oppose Graham-Cassidy!

I rely on quality, affordable health care - and so does everyone in my community. Everyone! This should be a basic right in our "wealthy" country.

Graham-Cassidy would be devastating to people with pre-existing conditions and disabilities. It would be terrible for our economy. And it would be a tremendous burden for States, many of whom are struggling financially already.

For these reasons I opposed the bill and I urge you to do the same. This is shameful political wrangling.

The ACA should be improved, not repealed.

thank you,  
Rachel Altmann  
Oregon

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah Sernaker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

This bill, in its current form, is simply not in the interest of the American people, but more like a way to keep poor people and women down. It does nothing to address the high cost of health care, or the lack of access. In addition, it puts the cost on those who can least afford it, the poor and the sick.

Pre-existing conditions are discriminatory and heartless. Those in lower incomes are more likely to have pre-existing conditions because they have less resources to do things like eat healthy food and exercise and even live in a neighborhood free of pollutants. Think about your own home. Is it near an industrial waste dump, or in a nice, clean suburb? Do you or your wife shop at Whole foods and buy non gmo organic food, or food laden with pesticides and antibiotics? How much does a good gym membership cost? Clearly the poor are more at risk for these conditions.

In addition, this bill puts the cost of pregnancy squarely on women, when we all know it takes two people for the condition to occur. Women already make less money than men for the same job, so this is like an extra burden. Pregnancy is already one of the leading causes of death for women ages 18-44, and by making it a preexisting condition, and higher health care costs in general, this bill will tend to increase that number.

Finally, elderly people are way more likely to have pre-existing conditions, and this bill will increase their costs tremendously. Pre-existing conditions should not even be a factor in health care, as it is a main reason people can't afford insurance. With no insurance, people use health care at the most expensive level, the emergency room, where we all pay.

Health care costs are too high, and there are things the government can do to decrease that number, (like have the government reinsure high cost procedures, limit profits on insurance companies, or require standardization or disclosure of all medical pricing) but this bill is not the answer.

If you go ahead with this bill, I hope you can reconcile it with your G-d, because I know of no religion that can justify putting higher burdens on the poor, sick, and elderly.

Thanks for listening.

Sarah Sernaker  
[REDACTED]

Chappaqua, NY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Amy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham- Cassidy bill

As a public health professional, access to affordable, reliable, continuous health care is key to our citizens health. Block granting sounds good, leaving it up to states but it then is limited and the money for this bill would eventually end with no Oman for coverage. Health care is necessary to achieve life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Planned parenthood provides essential health services at a free or reduced rate. This bill would defund them!

Amy Koren-Roth MS, RDN, CDN

Delmar NY [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathi Bastyr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Save ACA

I am writing to let you know I am against Trumpcare. I have three stints in my heart. I am on disability. I cannot afford the outrageous costs the bill will force upon us.

Please say NO to Trumpcare.

Katherine Bastyr

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jody Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** MECEP statement in opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill

The Maine Center for Economic Policy (MECEP) would like to go on record for today's Senate Finance Committee hearing opposing the Graham-Cassidy bill. The bill poses grave harm for Mainers.

MECEP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research organization dedicated to improving economic opportunity for working families. We provide citizens, policymakers, advocates, and the media with credible and rigorous economic analyses to craft policies that will help Maine people prosper. MECEP analyzed previous bills that would have eliminated the Affordable Care Act, first on a House bill, and then a Senate bill. The Graham-Cassidy bill would result in the same severe losses for Maine people.

Maine would be hard hit by the Graham-Cassidy bill, which would result in over 160,000 Mainers losing health coverage, according to the Center for American Progress. These Mainers losing their health insurance are mostly working poor people who do not earn enough to meet the basic needs of their families.

The bill eliminates tax credits that help moderate-income Mainers afford marketplace coverage. Mainers already face more expensive health care than most of the rest of the country; Graham-Cassidy would only make it worse. These cuts will hit older Mainers, and those living in the state's rural areas especially hard, because the sticker price of insurance is so high in these areas.

In addition, the bill would allow states like Maine to waive existing requirements that protect people with pre-existing conditions, bar annual or lifetime limits on coverage, and cover key services like comprehensive reproductive health services for women. Graham-Cassidy will negatively impact the health of thousands of Mainers.

The bill eliminates the ACA's Medicaid expansion provision; which could provide life-saving health coverage to more than 70,000 Mainers living in, or near, poverty. Most who would qualify are working in low-wage jobs—jobs where health insurance is not offered or is unaffordable. While Maine has not yet expanded Medicaid, citizens, through our state's ballot initiative process, have come together to ask Maine voters to approve such an expansion. Voters will consider the question this November.

Lastly, deep cuts and caps to Medicaid would cost Maine an estimated \$180 million in 2026. Maine will lose a total of \$1 billion by 2027 compared with current law, according to a report by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would devastate hard-working Maine families, jeopardize their livelihoods and their health, and cost the state millions in federal funds. MECEP strongly opposes this bill.

Thank you.

Jody Harris  
Associate Director

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carey Waggoner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My grandmother relies on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. She has a pre-existing conditions that will prevent coverage moving forward. Without this coverage, she will leave the lives of many family members behind.

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

Sincerely,  
Carey Waggoner

[REDACTED]  
Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]

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©

®TM



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** sukeller <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** info@pahealthaccess.org  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy health care amendment

Hello,

I live in Pennsylvania, and I have already emailed my two Senators.

I do NOT support this amendment because it does not guarantee care or protections and it in effect reduces Medicaid coverage.

In Pennsylvania, we are already having difficulty balancing our budget. This approach will unfairly burden the states.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Keller

East Lansdowne PA [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** andrea dobro <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Say no

I urge you to REJECT Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan legislation 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 Americans -- children, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people with pre-existing conditions.

We are counting on you.

Andrea Dobro  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Meghann Luczkowski <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

My amazing twin sons George and Miles were born 8 weeks early due to a rare spontaneous prenatal condition known as TTTS that only affects identical twins. Additionally, Miles was born with a rare form of dwarfism, something that occurred spontaneously and does not run on either side of our family. Even more rare, his identical twin does not have the condition. We had seemingly hit some sort of rarity jackpot, and it was going to financially bankrupt us.

George and Miles both spent their first 5 weeks in our local NICU. Their survival was touch and go for a while, but George hit a stride and got strong enough to come home before he was even technically due to be born. Miles required a much longer stay, and was transferred to a specialty PICU an hour away -- where he lived almost the first whole year of his life.

Thankfully in that time, one of their many incredible doctors helped us sign up for Medicaid. While my husband and I were both well-educated, gainfully employed and productive adults -- this level of care for our babies was not completely covered by our employer insurance. When Miles finally came home to live with his family where he belongs, he brought along a trach, ventilator, g-tube, and a whole hospital room's worth of other equipment and supplies necessary to keep him alive and flourishing. He also requires around-the-clock care by someone medically trained to help him. Our private insurance alone did not cover more than a week of that.

In the past three years, I have become a relative expert on genetics, respiratory systems, GI issues, durable medical equipment, and health care overall. Without a robust Medicaid program, without pre-existing conditions clauses, and without the ban on lifetime caps - our family would have financially destroyed. A little more than three years ago we were two educated, well-employed, American voters who just wanted to start a family. In the blink of an eye, our stability was gone and we now struggle like we never imagined we would - but we also gave the world two brilliant, happy little boys who will grow up to also be American voters, thanks to the ongoing support of Medicaid as it currently exists.

The Graham-Cassidy bill would be catastrophic to the well being of my son, and my whole family. Please consider the many Americans like us when you are making decisions on health care issues for everyone in our nation.

Thank you,  
Meghann Luczkowski  
Philadelphia, PA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

In 2010 my husband was diagnosed with diabetes and kidney cancer. Two years later he received a stent in his heart due to a small clot. With treatment and prescriptions my husband is fine.

Under Graham-Cassidy he and everyone else in my family would be considered to have pre-existing conditions that could preclude us from obtaining healthcare or that could make paying for healthcare unaffordable.

Without the prescriptions and monitoring that my husband receives he would be unable to work and pay taxes. He may not even be alive.

Thank you,

Daisey Brock

[REDACTED]  
Tallahassee, FL [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** S. G. Rager <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Finance Committee hearing on Graham-Cassidy bill Sept 25 2 PM

As an attorney in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia, I encounter large numbers of people in daily life. As a lifelong resident of Virginia, I have seen the good, the bad and the ugly about what happens when people do not have access to health care because they do not qualify for any kind of assistance, yet cannot afford ever-increasing premiums.

Please understand that the American people to realize that pre-existing conditions in the Graham-Cassidy bill will be up for grabs, if not extinct as a basis for coverage, that insurers can raise rates willy-nilly which takes us back to the days before the AHCA.

Many other benefits will be curtailed under this bait-and-switch tactic of letting states make decisions. We have states in this country who do not yet "get" that they should provide for all of their citizens. Those they cut out are disproportionately poor and unable to find other resources.

This administration has, as I understand it, eliminated the necessary funds (or most of them) to publicize the enrollment period in AHCA. They have done whatever they could to mystify insurers to the point that some have indicated they will not participate.

It is indeed an awkward situation to be in – to follow the Republican majority's lemmings off the cliff, or to do the responsible thing and not repeal AHCA.

In the future, please see that both sides of the aisle are participants in a fully standard procedure (hearings, committees, etc) to produce the needed repairs to AHCA. Otherwise, be prepared to be personally liable for an astonishing number of deaths among the poor and near-poor.

And do be especially prepared to hear from a bunch of fairly well-heeled middle class Republicans who, after distributing Mom's wealth and assets to qualify her for Medicaid, will discover that the Republican majority is intending to do away with Medicaid funding for her nursing home, too. It is no consolation to the dying that their more well-heeled neighbors will suddenly have to deal with Mom moving home, but it is a fitting comeuppance.

Susan Godman Rager  
Susan Godman Rager, P.C.  
Attorney at Law VA-MD-DC

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Summers <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care bill

Work with Democrats to improve the ACA, Obama Care. Say NO to Republican health care "reform" which will hurt many.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Postal, Steven <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Thomas, Peter  
**Subject:** Access to Rehabilitation Services and Devices (For the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal)  
**Attachments:** CPR ACA letter re Graham-Cassidy final 2 (D0744479).pdf  
**Importance:** High

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and Members of the Committee:

The undersigned organizations write as members of the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (CPR) to express our opposition to the Graham-Cassidy legislation (H.R. 1628) which would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This legislation would seriously undermine coverage: in the individual market through the use of block grants, under Medicaid expansion plans by phasing out this program, and under the original Medicaid program by implementing per capita caps. Taken together, these policies will lead to significantly less coverage of rehabilitation services and devices. CPR is a coalition of national consumer, clinician, and membership organizations that advocate for policies to ensure access to rehabilitative care so that individuals with injuries, illnesses, disabilities and chronic conditions may regain and/or maintain their maximum level of health and independent function.

Please see attached for our letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] with any questions.

Best,

Steve Postal, JD\*  
Staff, Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation  
Director, Health Policy

**POWERS**

Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville PC  
[REDACTED]  
Washington, DC [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

\*Licensed to practice law in Maryland. Application for admission to the District of Columbia bar is pending.

Please be aware of our new email domain [REDACTED]. Please add [REDACTED] to your whitelist or the list of accepted email senders.

This message from the law firm of POWERS PYLES SUTTER & VERVILLE PC may contain information which is privileged and confidential and is intended solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please be aware that any review, disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this message is prohibited. Please notify the sender of the error by replying to this message, and destroy this email and any attachments.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rebecca Lindenberger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

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

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Lindenberger  
Philadelphia, PA



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katrina Matheson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a mother of two, my husband is disabled and cannot work. We live in California.

In 2014, I was able to quit my job and start a business. Because of a drop in income initially, we qualified for expanded Medicare, and later, heavily subsidized ACA. By the end of that year, my income was higher, and we repaid those ACA subsidies when we filed our taxes.

Starting my business would have been impossible without the expanded Medicare, due to my husband's condition. The ACA subsidies worked precisely as they should have - they were a lifeline that enabled me to take the risk of a new business - but I repaid them as my business grew over the year.

Due to my experience, I am a strong supporter of the ACA and I strongly OPPOSE the Graham Cassidy bill. We need expanded healthcare, not exclusionary healthcare.

Thank you.

Katrina Matheson  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Paula Bohaty <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:58 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal My testimony

Hearing to Consider Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal My Testimony- September, 25 2017 Paula Bohaty  
[REDACTED]  
Lincoln, NE [REDACTED]

Senators-

I'm one of the 30+ million who will lose insurance under this disastrous piece of legislation. My husband, Randy will also lose insurance, my 37 yr old daughter, the sole provider for 3 children will ALSO lose insurance- all 3 of if will become uninsured.

This is a DEATH SENTENCE. We feel that's exactly what you want- this bill proves none of you care about human life.

My daughter Chesene Johnson and I were born with an inherited blood disease. We have PID- PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY. We have ZERO immune system. We are constantly sick as our bodies cannot fight off any viral or bacterial infection.

We need a monthly blood transfusion which cost \$12,000 monthly- neither of us can afford that- could you? We are in need on constant doctoring and need tons of antibiotics year round to stay alive. This is a rare rare disease. This to you is a Pre-Existing condition and not covered. A simple cold- gone untreated will kill us.

I'm 61, I will die within months- my daughter is 36, she will die! Who will raise her 3 children? You are going to leave my 3 grandchildren motherless- all for \$\$ in your pockets! And none of you seem to care.

My husband Randy is a colon cancer survivor, 10 years now. This to you is a pre-Existing condition under your hateful bill- he will lose insurance. He will die.

You have issued a death sentence to our family, you are cruel and demonic. YOU PASS THIS- YOU WILL BE KNOWN AS THE PARTY OF DEATH! PRO- DEATH.

PLEASE STOP THIS BILL! Millions will suffer and die. We have no money, we cannot afford medical needs now, raising premiums will kill us!

Do you give a damn? What is wrong with you all? The almighty dollar means more than American lives ?

Stop this demonic bill and now.

My Senators: Sasse and Fischer want us to die, they do not care.

Paula Bohaty  
Nebraska.

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The bill to replace the ACA

Dear Committee Members,

My family rely/relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I **oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill**. My hard-working, tax-paying family consists of people who have had cancer and are those who are disabled. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to **improve the ACA, not repeal it**.

Sincerely,

Doria Howe  
Washington DC, with family in Maryland, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Georgia and Maine.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cara <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Pass Graham-Cassidy

Please approve Graham-Cassidy now! OCare has failed and we need a replacement. Or just repeal it, please.

Cara McAlister

[REDACTED]

Bloomfield Hills, MI [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Molly BH <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept 25th, 2017

Dear United States congress, and whoever else it may concern,

My family and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and affordability is a long one. My entire family has disabilities. My mother has severe depression and anxiety, along with asthma and numerous other bronchial issues, limiting her ability to do physical labor. My father has schizophrenia, making him heavily reliant on medication, for his safety, as well as our own. My sister has profound autism, meaning she cannot speak and she needs around the clock supervision. Because she cannot speak, it is harder to treat minor ailments, thus, minor ailments easily escalate into severe health risks. Small rashes turn into full on infections. Back aches turn into dislocated spinal disks. Stubbed toes turn into broken bones. You get the picture.

I myself, amongst all this chaos, have my own set of debilitating conditions. I have had severe anxiety and depression my whole life. When I am not on medication, I often end up in the hospital for suicidal ideations and panic attacks. Without medication, my brain goes into a survival mode where my sensory input is shut down for the sake of my own sanity, limiting me from doing anything more than staring into space.

I have always had to have individual education plans in school to help me succeed. I can only hold certain jobs because I don't know when my illness will affect my ability to leave my home.

I have developed PTSD from the numerous scary incidents that have occurred when my father was not medicated. My PTSD has led to many physical issues. This includes acid reflux, sensory overload issues, heartburn, and migraines.

Besides my mental health, I also have severe asthma and allergies, of which I've had numerous hospitalizations because my body was not getting enough oxygen. I currently am being tested for colon cancer and Crohn's disease, which adds even more anxiety. It's a never ending cycle of distress, and not having healthcare would exacerbate all these terrible things.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. For the sake of me and my family, do not repeal the ACA. So much of my life has been eaten away by debilitating health issues, and I'd hate to know that I would die because my country values money more than it's citizens. Tears are shedding as I write these words, and I'd hate to hear they went to waste by repealing the ACA.

Sincerely,

Molly Burns-Hansen, age 21

[REDACTED] Minneapolis, MN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Janet Lute <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition the Graham-Cassidy bill

Many millions of people rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Pre-existing conditions need to be include, all people should have to sign up. A plan that only includes those who are sick does not work. Block grants to States is an inefficient and unfair way to spend healthcare dollars. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Janet Lute  
Hendersonville, NC

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Ludy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Script: I rely on quality, affordable healthcare for myself and my family. More so, as a mental health professional I treat hundreds of people every year who rely on affordable healthcare that does not exclude pre-existing conditions. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, and affordability is extensive in my practice and has everything to do with stabilizing a person's mental health condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary L Ludy, LMHC, LMFT  
Worcester, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The vote must be no

Please for the sake of millions of American take heart. Show compassion. Allow families some peace from a country filled with so much fear and dismay. Give them the hope of knowing their health matters. Their lives matter! Give us hope by voting no!  
Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marie Sullivan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

This bill is horrible. We can't rush something as important as health care. I've been pregnant, I've had breast cancer. I would either be dead or bankrupt.

Marie Sullivan  
San Rafael, CA [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mikala Jamison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Statement for the record, Re: Graham-Cassidy Bill

This bill will harm millions of Americans.

Under Graham-Cassidy, states could allow insurance companies to charge more to people with pre-existing conditions. That's reprehensible.

Most Medicaid recipients are kids, seniors & people w/disabilities. They don't deserve to lose insurance under Trumpcare.

Experts agree: Graham-Cassidy will make coverage more expensive & cause millions to lose care. Let's listen to them & reject Trumpcare.

Tweets via Sen. Tim Kaine. Anger via me, because this bill is trash and you know it's trash.

--  
Mikala Jamison  
Cell: [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Eric Mitchell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Amelia Kegan [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Christian Leaders and Organizations statements opposing the Cassidy-Graham bill  
**Attachments:** CoP Cassidy Graham press release.docx

Attached for the record, is the statement and quotes about Graham-Cassidy from Christian leaders involved in the Circle of Protection. These include statements from Sojourners, Bread for the World, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities, National Association of Evangelicals, Salvation Army, National Council of Churches, and a number of others.

**Eric P. Mitchell**  
Director of Government Relations

**Bread for the World**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

[REDACTED]  
Washington, DC [REDACTED]  
Direct [REDACTED]  
Cell: [REDACTED]

TELL CONGRESS: Invest in programs that will put us on track to end hunger by 2030. Join Bread for the World's 2017 Offering of Letters: Doing Our Part to End Hunger. [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ann McLarnan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is irresponsible legislation

This bill will have serious, overwhelmingly negative consequences for millions of people and will endanger the entire US healthcare system, yet it's being rushed through in a hasty, totally irresponsible fashion. Available and affordable health insurance on the individual market matters. Protection for pre-existing conditions matter. A robust Medicaid program nationwide matters. Mental Health parity and affordable birth control matter. Start working for the good of the country and not for wealthy donors!

Ann McLarnan

[REDACTED]  
Richmond, IN [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Suzanne Rahm <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators

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.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Todd Jelinek <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Testimony 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,

~Todd Jelinek

Western Springs, IL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** PHYLLIS GAIL DOLOFF <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy healthcare bill--NO!

This bill is un-vetted by the CBO, condemned by insurers, decried by every non-profit organization from the American Cancer Society to the AMA, and grossly mis-represented by its authors, this is a disaster waiting to happen. Please vote NO when this bill comes to the floor.

Phyllis G. Doloff

[REDACTED]  
Port St Lucie, FL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Rachel Campbell Davidson  
<[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy

Dear committee members,

The latest bill addressing healthcare is still bad for the American people. Like many Americans, I have a pre-existing condition and so do many--if not most--of my family members. This bill puts our healthcare and financial stability in danger.

Sincerely,

Rachel Davidson

[REDACTED]  
Madison, WI [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Anthony Jelinek <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:56 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

This proposed bill is no improvement over the last offering. I want to see a bipartisan proposal that does not short change a those needing a sound and well based healthcare plan. Don't repeal what we have now till that plan of that quality is ready to provide for the American people!

Sincerely,  
Anthony L. Jelinek  
Western Springs, Illinois

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** THEO BURTIS <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

A good friend of mine relies on quality, affordable healthcare. I'm writing this on her behalf because I know she's busy trying to make ends meet at the moment. This is why I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

Without medicaid to cover her prescriptions, my friend would be unable to sleep let alone work, and the rest of my community would have to spend even more time and money taking care of her.

Healthcare is a public good underwriting our economy like highways or clean water. When your friends or family or neighbors are sick, you end up paying for it one way or another. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Theo Burtis,

[REDACTED]  
LA, CA, [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katherine Wolf <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** . Shouldn't Come to the floor

**Totally Against the Graham Cassidy Bill.** It shouldn't come to the floor. My premiums will sky rocket as a 63 year old former cancer patient. Also hospital costs for unreimbursed care will be transferred to health care premiums for health care that people get through work. Hospitals are required to provide emergency and other care even if the person is uninsured and can't pay. The cost of this uncollectable debt is passed onto those that can pay, primarily through contracts with insurance. ACA is actually keeping business premiums DOWN by minimizing hospitals' uncollectible debt. So not only is this bill hurting those on Medicaid, those of us who pay for individual insurance...but will also raise premiums for people who get health insurance through work. Finally the health care market needs STABILITY to set reasonable premiums. Pushing this off to the states means that it will be years before there is stability in many areas. This too will push premiums up.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Fulsher <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy Graham bill

Please stop this repeal replace game and seriously consider that families in this country. The families who pay you to provide for life, liberty and pursuit of happiness...  
My family has played fair our whole lives...put money in retirement funds...put money in college funds...bought a house we can afford...give our time to better our local community. Recently our son was diagnosed with autism...it's a tough diagnosis to hear. We want the best for him, but feel our government is working against us on health care...he's now a pre existing conditions...please consider how your actions impact the American families like mine...stop this assault on health care and work on real solutions....

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ellen Deutsch <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Ellen Deutsch  
[REDACTED]

Lisle, IL [REDACTED]

Re: Graham-Cassidy bill  
Finance Committee 9/25/2017

I am writing to you to share my dismay regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill. This bill will negatively impact me as a daughter of seniors who are living on a fixed income and rely on their health care coverage, as a parent of a son under 26 with pre-existing conditions, as a teacher of disabled children with significant health-care needs that are currently met by Medicaid, and as a woman with women's health care needs. Graham-Cassidy would eliminate guaranteed protections for people with pre-existing conditions and the requirement for essential health benefits while allowing insurance companies to charge older people more, gutting Medicaid and taking money away from states that have Medicaid expansion in place, and defunding Planned Parenthood. A committee hearing at the finance level should not be the only hearing on an issue that impacts every American and 1/6th of our economy. There should be bi-partisan input as well as input from health care providers and institutions. This bill will be disastrous for so many including seniors and the disabled community. The families I work with should not have to choose between bankruptcy and providing the ongoing health care that their children need.

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Amy Lieberman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to Graham-Cassidy Bill!

Do NOT pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

This is a mean bill that will harm our most vulnerable citizens: elderly people, infants and children, poor people, and disabled and ill family members, friends and neighbors.

The bill has not had the in-depth hearings necessary. It is hasty, cruel, and will have dire and long lasting consequences. Think of your grandchildren!!!!

Is this the legacy you want to be remembered for?

Amy Lieberman, LCSW  
Hastings on Hudson , NY [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nancy Hightower <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GC Healthcare Bill

Dear Senate,

Please do NOT approve this bill! I am disabled with several pre-existing conditions such as Fibromyalgia and Diabetes. I am just getting by on \$1300/month. I currently have insurance, but only because my employer (National Park Service) continues to pay the majority of the premiums. However, I rarely seek medical advice because my copay is still too expensive, even with insurance. For example, my diabetes testing strips cost me \$100/month WITH insurance.

I'm also very concerned about the potential effects to Medicare and Medicaid. I'm 55.

It is time this country joined the rest of the industrialized world and went to single-payer universal healthcare! Healthcare for profit is wrong.

Please vote NO!

Sincerely,

Nancy Hightower  
A voter

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sandra Hartwig <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

Testimony for the hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal

Sandra Hartwig, [REDACTED] Pocatello, ID [REDACTED]

Hey Republicans, yes you. My Republican Congressman and Senators from the very Red state of Idaho, all the other Republican Congressmen and Senators, the Republican Party and of course the Republican President. I don't have time for this. I am busy working 40 hour weeks, volunteering, juggling my Grandson's schedule, going to doctor appointments (because I have a pre-existing condition), maintaining a household and taking care of my family. NOW, I (along with my fellow Americ...ans and every major medical group and association who overwhelmingly oppose the newest health care bill) have to fight this battle to defeat your bill all over AGAIN!!!

How many times do we have to tell you, this is not acceptable? You can not take away health care from millions of people. You cannot allow insurance companies to charge exorbitant premiums to people with preexisting conditions, drop mental health, price seniors out of being able to afford coverage and sentence people with a death penalty. What cancer patient can afford premiums of \$141,000 a year. Do you know what the median income of your constituents is? Do you even know what is in this latest bill? It is pretty obvious that you don't. We know where your loyalties lie. We see who is buying it. You have sold your soul to the medical industry complex.

We want you to fix the ACA. It has problems. It had problems from day one mostly because of concessions to your demands and because of the favors you made to those very same groups that line your pockets. I have said for years that the medical industrial complex will collapse our economy. It is not sustainable. When is it going to stop? I am scared to death to think of what my children will face if this passes

You see, I am on Medicare and I can still afford a good Medicare supplement. So far you haven't messed with that. I can't tell you what a relief going on Medicare was. For years I have struggled to pay health insurance premiums and deductibles. My retirement funds are not where I hoped they would be. If it hadn't been for the ACA I am not sure I would have been able to continue to have health care the last few years until I hit that magic age of 65.

I am okay now. I have Medicare. At least for now. But what about my children? What do they face?



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joe Deters-Visiting Angels <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 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.

Joseph Deters  
Wildwood MO

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Judith Redekop <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:55 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA repeal

I am strongly against repeal of the ACA. Millions of people will lose insurance. The ACA is imperfect. Let's get bipartisan committee working to improve the already existing health law.

Judy Redekop  
Tucson,AZ

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kymberli <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I am writing today to express my vehement opposition to the Graham Cassidy bill.

My best friend was just diagnosed with cancer. Graham Cassidy literally puts her life in jeopardy by limiting her options for treatment with lifetime caps, risking coverage at all our to the whim of state determining if pre-existing conditions will be covered, and the cruelty of fighting this disease while being unsure whether or not insurance will be there to help cover the costs at all.

My mother is a senior on Medicaid and a diabetic. Graham Cassidy endangers her life and quality of life with the uncertainty pf black grants and again, doubtful coverage for those with pre-existing conditions.

My father is a veteran with multiple health challenges and a senior living on Medicaid and limited income. Graham Cassidy allows the country her served to walk away from him in his time of need.

NO on Graham Cassidy - or any regressive healthcare legislation that puts the American people in further jeopardy.

WE NEED IMPROVEMENTS - BUILDING ON THE ACA. Not regressive measures that make out lives more uncertain and healthcare less accessible.

WE NEED HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION WRITTEN IN THE LIGHT OF DAY by members of all parties, that listen to doctors and patients with public hearings and CBO scores so we understand the HUMAN costs of these decisions.

WE NEED SINGLE PAYER UNIVERSAL COVERAGE.

WE NEED YOU TO DO THE JOB WE PAY YOU FOR and give YOU Healthcare benefits for...so, stop with the partisan games. Peoples lives are on the line.

WE NEED YOU TO DO BETTER. RIGHT NOW.

Kymberli Ricks White  
Beaverton, Oregon  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Hudak <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal of ACA

Please do not pass this bill to repeal and replace ACA. MANY MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY WILL BE IN JEOPARDY IF THIS PASSES, ESPECIALLY A SEVERLY HANDICAPPED GRANDCHILD Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** susan cohen kenny <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy ACA repeal

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dr. Susan R. Cohen and I am a pediatrician in Massachusetts. I take care of many children who benefit from the ACA. I urge you to consider the fate of these innocent patients who deserve good care but may be unable to receive it, if the Graham Cassidy ACA repeal is passed.

The current bill has been crafted in a hurry and does not include the input of all who would hope to improve it. The pressure to pass it with alacrity is arbitrary. The harm it will do is potentially devastating and unfair.

I do my part to make our community respectful and healthy. I care deeply about those who rely on you and me to ensure that they are safe, especially the children. I am a voter and I encourage those in my practice to vote as well. We are paying attention to the care that is being given to conducting governmental business inasmuch as it will directly impact on the well being of us as Americans.

I urge you to vote NO on the Graham Cassidy ACA repeal and to get back to the job of working together to target legislation whose first priority is ensuring the health of our nation.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Cohen, M.D.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This bill as written will devastate people's financial and health well being in this country. It will bring the premiums and out of pocket co-pays beyond what most of us can afford. I am a retired health care professional and have seen what the lack of healthcare can do to destroy peoples lives. I worked all of my life saving to ensure some security for the "golden years". this bill has created so much angst for so many of us, we are fearful to have to choose, food, housing or insurance. THAT IS JUST NOT RIGHT. I have family that is trying to support a family of 4, work full time and attain a college degree in hopes of a more secure future. taking away affordable healthcare will be a death knell to them and hundreds and thousand of others seeking to improve their quality of life. it is time to stop this one sided fiasco and give bi-partisanship efforts a chance to improve upon what we already have. we are the wealthiest nation in the world with the poorest health insurance system. This country has some of the world's greatest healthcare facilities and Practioners, yet people will be denied access to them without proper health insurance and for many, the blow dealt will be a death sentence when otherwise proper care will ensure a longer healthier life to work, live and play in the greatest country in the world. do not vote partisanship, vote with a conscience to help those that elected you to do the job, working for all Americans.

Thank you for your time  
Marilyn Pizzolon  
New Hampshire

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marissa Flaxbart <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose, and here's why

I am an educated, employed, white woman. Without the ACA I would be uninsured. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I don't want to go back to being uninsured, fearing that not only unforeseen illness, but even some other unpredictable event -- a car accident, a fall, anything -- would essentially force me into bankruptcy. I don't want to go back to avoiding annual checkups because the cost is beyond my reach. I am an American citizen and I wish I felt like my government cared about my wellbeing. The interests of the health sector and big medicine should not be more important than the livelihood of this nation's actual human citizens. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Marissa Flaxbart

Los Angeles, CA

formerly of Chicago, IL and Chesterton, IN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lydia Seiders <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 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.

Miss. Lydia Seiders  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Hagerstown, MD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Susan Mar Landau <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

To whom it may concern,

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

I suffer from both thyroid and mental health conditions that in the past have debilitated me, leading me to thoughts of suicide. Along with access to general health care and testing for potential life threatening conditions (including annual mammograms and cervical and uterine cancer), Medicaid and the guaranteed coverage of pre-existing conditions have provided me with access to medical care and medications that have literally saved my life.

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

Sincerely

Susan Landau  
New York, NY, [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dan Cherryhomes <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

It is tremendously upsetting to see the lack of information, foresight or judgment involved in the creation of this iteration of the antihealthcare act.

Although there are other efforts, and bipartisan efforts at that, that are underway to fix the problems in the ACA, this bill is not bipartisan, and not a fix.

It is destructive for many, in the service of added wealth for the very few.

If it is passed, the damage to the sick, the elderly, and the poor will be viewed in the future as one of the darkest moments in American history.

Please take more time, develop a bipartisan plan, and maintain the needed avenues for health, medicare and medicaid coverage in this country.

We are so much better than this.

Dan Cherryhomes

[REDACTED]  
Mpls, MN [REDACTED]

Cc:  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Glenda Satterfield <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham - Cassidy

Dear Senators,

My grandson, age 10, suffers from Tuberous Sclerous Complex. He and his family rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of him and many other severely disabled children, I oppose the Graham - Cassidy Bill.

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

Sincerely,

Glenda Satterfield  
Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Sent from my iPhone

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** cathy wendler <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** cathy wendler  
**Subject:** Don't gut healthcare

Sent from my iPhone

We are what used to be mid level Missouri couple, pay our bills, donate, pay our regular copays for insurance, then hubby semi-retired after 25 years. So his "retirement" goes to buy his own insurance. Just another drain on our dwindling resources. We never thought it would be this hard to become senior citizens. My work covers me, but with high deductible. It is a real struggle. NOW husband just diagnosed with. Rare cancer, Mantle Cell Lymphoma, and has started chemo. Some of the treatments require hospitalization. And. Stem cell transplant at first remission. Why first? Because it is treatable, not curable. The doctors try to buy you time while they test new drugs and treatments. Hubby is in a study, no pay for it, just knowing what he undergoes might help the next person, praying what they learn now may give him a little more time with our grandchildren, with me. We did everything together for 41 years now. Don't make me watch him die. Preexisting conditions, deductibles in thousands and hundreds of thousand dollars, - this is a death sentence. Please please don't.

Cathy Wendler

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Sulzberger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Committee Members,

I write today to express my disapproval of and disgust with yet another attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. I have friends and family members who would not be able to afford insurance but for the ACA. While much is unclear about the Graham-Cassidy bill, which lacks a CBO score and is opposed by almost everyone who understands the complexity of our healthcare system, it is clear that many, many more Americans will be uninsured if this bill passes and that those of us with preexisting conditions will be in a much worse position.

What kind of country will we be if we care only about insuring the wealthy and those who are healthy? The ACA is not perfect and should be improved with input from Democrats and, yes, Republicans, not underfunded, undercut, or repealed.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Sulzberger  
Charlottesville, Virginia [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Helen Lisa Bevivino <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because this bill is totally unacceptable. Please hold off from any votes until both parties and independents can voice their ideas and suggestions to improve the ACA. Let's get the facts to get it right. HEALING is what we need.

Helen Lisa Bevivino  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cheryl <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal of ACA

Senators

This will be a huge error for our nation if this is allowed to pass . Please work together to fix ACA!

Cheryl Schrum

Port Charlotte , FL [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** JD Kelly <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My experience with the A C A

Hello

My name is Joseph Daniel Kelly [ Dan }

I am writing to inform whoever might care that the new government insurance program saved my life  
Until January 2015 I had no health insurance and my health was in decline

That is a scary feeling

Thanks to a physician friend and my wonderful sisters I got signed up for insurance which allowed me access  
to some of the best medical care available

I was diagnosed and treated for bladder cancer

When I go back for follow up visits they tell me that I am fine, I feel great and healthier than I have in years

I am back to work as a plumber and loving it, I believe my clients are happy about this too

I am sure that there are others out there that need care now

I hope that there is a program available for them too

Sincerely

Joseph Daniel Kelly



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Melissa Overton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** AHA

Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017; Melissa Overton, YOUR ADDRESS.

To:

Testimony to the Senate Finance Committee.

My story is simple. I am a single mom. My son has always had Medicaid. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, I was put on Medicaid. Although I was employed, I was underemployed and did not have access to health insurance. In 2016, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Unable to work due to treatment, I depended on donations pay, and, like thousands of other Americans, was not eligible for other health insurance. Untreated, I would have died, leaving my son dependant on aid. Only one of my radiation treatments cost over 200K and I had over 33 treatments for breast cancer. Without the ACA, I would have been unable to afford care. I am in remission now and am finally able to think about work. End Medicaid, end the ACA, and you end me. I urge you to vote no on hit horrendous proposal.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Overton  
Bloomington, In. [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Karen Steininger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

I can't urge the committee strongly enough to reject the currently-proposed healthcare bill. It will erode the best parts of the ACA that have kept so many Americans insured over the last seven years. Prior to the ACA, I was only able to afford health insurance through the generosity of my mother-in-law.. Many people don't have that option. With the advent of the ACA, I was able to pay for my own insurance, and had better benefits for less money. Please do what's right for America and DO NOT stand behind this bill.

Karen Steininger  
[REDACTED]

Altoona, Iowa [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** John Milward <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

The push to pass Graham-Cassidy without even the pretense of courting Democratic Senators insures that even if this ill-conceived bill is passed, it'll just continue the charade the Republicans have pursued since the passage of the Affordable Care Act. The pursuit of a logical health care plan precludes partisan politics. Yes, fix the Affordable Care Act, but don't pretend to be solving the health care crisis by essentially denying coverage for pre-existing conditions, punishing states that expanded Medicaid, and ignoring the objections voiced by virtually every medical association in the country.

The latest additions to the bill designed to curry the votes of senators from Alaska and Maine reveal how craven the Republicans have become in their pursuit of killing "Obamacare." This is not about health care, but all about politics. Reject this bill, engage with politicians on the other side of the aisle, and work to improve our health care system.

John Milward  
Bearsville, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Melissa R'kingsley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GC Healthcare Bill - personal story  
**Attachments:** IMG\_20170925\_103423\_024.jpg

Dear Senators

I would like to share my personal health story to have you understand a large number of the American workforce that will leave if the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill is approved. Not only would the relapse-remission population be in danger of becoming more permanently disabled, but the taxes/social security payments from these individuals would cease, and most importantly the impact that their careers leave on others would never achieve complete fruition.

I was born with a rare congenital neuro-muscular disorder that still isn't fully defined, but caused muscle weakness within my wrists, ankles, SOB, and seizures. I also had the unfortunate luck to contract a virus at the age of 24 that triggered the auto-immune disease, Guilliane-Barre Syndrome. Sadly, once one auto-immune disease begins, others have a tendency to stack, so now I also have Myasthenia Gravis, and a rare combination of both Hashimotos and Graves thyroid diseases.

So why is this important? With the exception of the more mild congenital disorder, all of these diseases, like MS, can have a relapse/remission type of activity. I had a very active and rewarding work-life for over 25 years; yet, in 1993, 1998, 2005, 2008, 2013, and 2015 I had one or more of these following symptoms: paralysis of the lower limbs, weakness of the upper limbs, inability to speak well due to hoarseness or mumbling, choking on food, respiratory failure (including ventilation), and in 2015, cardiac asystole (flatline) and a PEA. In the flare up moments, I need hospitalizations with more expensive treatments (IVIG, plasmapheresis) to have a chance at survival followed by either a short stint in rehab and/or out-patient PT. It would take 6 months to a year to achieve my base line again, with slight decreases, but then I would go back to work. Before, the ADA, jobs would not be held for me, and as I recuperated, I looked for work. Additionally, I take the drug, Mestinon, every 4.5 hours, to remain stable.

I can honestly say I have chutzpah and imbibe a strong passion for life and relationships that has allowed me to cheat death more than one time. I am a fighter and survivor, who holds much love for others. This is what keeps me alive. For over 25 years, I was a teacher or a child/adolescent therapist. I personally impacted hundreds of lives in the Mid-Atlantic region, including DC and its suburbs in both private and public schools. Heck, I might've even worked with one of your family members! How do I've had this impact? By the numerous, written heart-felt thank yous from these kids, their parents, their continuing desire of wanting to take photos with me, give me photos of them, and wanting to see it hanging on my office wall LOL - I have several collages. This is a large reason of why I continue to fight for my life. I, like others in my position, affect many individuals and sometimes give voice to the voiceless.

Right now, I need you to do the same. Please bring your individual voice and fight for my life, and the lives of many like me. I am not the only person with a story like this, or the only individual that has touched many people's lives in a powerful way. Do you not see that by being pegged as a person with a pre-existing condition, if the Graham-Cassidy bill is approved, as a teacher or social worker I most likely would not be able to afford the higher premiums. Life-time limits or denial of coverage will most likely occur, as each hospitalization averages 87K and then up to a year of follow-up care. If enacted, I know that next time I relapse, at the age of

50 and am now disabled, the best choice for my family would be not to fight and allow myself to die or financially my family could collapse. This saddens me greatly, not only for myself, but because I know I am not unique in this situation. I represent many middle-class Americans with auto-immune disease. And on a personal note, it is a very hard reality to know that I fought so hard for my life to help kids in need, and my government does not see this as worthy or important. This greatly grieves me.

Following this letter, please enjoy some of the many snippets of thanks from my day “kids”, and enjoy the attached photos of one of my described office collages, and one of myself and my husband. I’m hoping that pictures are worth a thousand words.

So in closing, I ask you this:

\*Will you fight for me and for people like me by taking your time to work together to develop a strong, health care bill?

\*Is a political deadline or targeted state funds, truly more important than the impact and actual lives of Americans?

Please vote no to this healthcare bill. Thank you for allowing me to share and from that, taking this into consideration. I currently live in Reading, PA and available to talk via phone or in-person, with notice, if anyone chooses to do so.

Melissa “Misha” Rentschler R’kingsley  
240-614-9298

“...I really appreciate what a great teacher you’ve been to me, and all the help, especially when I was in my depressed period. It helped a lot that you were willing to sympathize and listen. No one could replace you...”

“...I finally found the down to earth, been there done that, I understand teacher. It took me 12 years to be able to find one of those. You’ve been the best mentor in my life. Your good heart, patience, and love for everyone will come back to you. Just wait. Oh, yeah, thanks for putting up with my bad days. It take A LOT of patience...”

“...I think you know by now that’s its hard for me to accept help, accept a compliment, and play by the rules. This is probably because I need to learn these lessons the most. If there’s one thing you did this year, was force me to do all of the above.”

“I don’t think I have ever run across a teacher who genuinely cares about her students as much as you do. To many, you are their “second Mom” and many refer to your office as the “venting room” or the “shrink’s office.” You meet work with a smile, and your kindness and determination never ceases to amaze me...”

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Julia Aegerter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Honorable:

I once lived in Indiana and had no health insurance because of a preexisting condition. There was a state plan for uninsurables but it was too expensive.

The horrible preexisting condition was that I took an antidepressant. It was a generic drug- I had been taking for 10 yrs - never having missed a day of work or been hospitalized.

I imagine there are way more people than you can imagine who were caught in this trap and will be again if the Graham Cassidy bill passes.

Please live up to the trust the county has put in you.

Use a bipartisan approach and fix health care.

With respect,

Julia Aegerter

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ellen Goldstein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Defeat Graham Cassidy Heller

Dear Senators and Committee Staff,  
My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My 14 year old son Owen was born with a devastating genetic disease called Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type I. He depends on machines for breathing and nutrition. He is very smart, but has virtually no motor ability. Without Medicaid as supplemental insurance, our family would be bankrupt and we would have lost our home. Medicaid also covers our critical home nursing, which private insurance does not, and which allows me to continue to work and pay taxes. The loss of comprehensive private insurance that has no lifetime cap and covers pre-existing conditions, coupled with Medicaid coverage for my son, has literally saved his life and ours. I would request that you revive the bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Goldstein  
Brooklyn, NY

Ellen Goldstein  
Vice President, Policy, Planning & Research  
Times Square Alliance

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
T: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]

Follow [REDACTED] on Twitter and become a fan on Facebook

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Members of my family rely on ACA benefits. Please vote AGAINST Graham-Cassidy Bill. People will lose coverage. Thank you. Karen Donelan, a citizen of the USA, Williamson County, Texas.

Sent from my iPhone



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisette Palley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** gchcomments; murkowski@senate.gov; collins@senate.gov; feinstein@senate.gov; harris@senate.gov  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Chairperson,

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

My brother is severely physically disabled and has serious mental health issues. He has preexisting conditions, most notably insulin-dependent Diabetes, Congestive Heart Failure and Bipolar Disorder. He has had three heart attacks and recently underwent double bypass surgery which initially was quite successful but because his Diabetes is so advanced, it is again negatively impacting his heart and his arteries. His physicians are working to see how to improve his condition so he can experience an improved quality of life.

Since my brother has received Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California, where we live) through the Affordable Care Act, he has been treated for his medical issues more thoroughly. With his preexisting conditions, I am certain without the ACA he would have a great deal of trouble finding health insurance. He now has the support of an excellent medical team. As a disabled person, he is treated with dignity and respect. He is unable to work. Therefore, he would not be able to pay for extensive health insurance coverage if the ACA were repealed and replaced with the Graham-Cassidy proposal.

I am in favor fixing what is wrong with the Affordable Care Act, not simply replacing it with a bill that is not supported by even one of the major medical-oriented organizations in this country and would deny millions of our citizens health care all across our country.

Respectfully,

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** John Harris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no on Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

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

My wife and I each founded our small businesses, and we are insured because of the Affordable Care Act. Everyone needs and deserves preventive medical care, and it should be understood that each person and family is just one diagnosis or accident away from needing urgent medical care.

I also oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill because the U.S. Senate should follow regular order. The Senate hasn't had adequate time to understand the impact of the G-C bill on Americans, our healthcare providers, our insurance companies, or our economy. What's certain is that the G-C bill will destabilize the already unsteady insurance market, which will cause them to raise rates, and make insurance too expensive for many.

Public policy requires laws that reflect good public policy, are easy to understand, and are evenly applied. There is no good public policy reason to abandon the bipartisan progress that was being made by Senator Murray and instead push through a vote on the G-C bill before the CBO score has been released.

Senators, you are better than this. You didn't go to DC to take away people's healthcare. Vote no, and work on a bipartisan bill that improves the Affordable Care Act. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

John F. Harris  
Medina, Washington

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Big Eye Bri <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No Graham-Cassidy.

NO GRAHAM-CASSIDY. That is all.

Brian Richerson

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Semaj Debose <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:52 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.

[Semaj Debose]  
[New Orleans, Louisiana ]

Sent from my iPad

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** T Pooley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators:

I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for each of the reasons set out below. Thank you. Sincerely, TJ Pooley  
Bedford, MA [REDACTED]

Graham-Cassidy-Heller (ACA Repeal) Simple Summary

Repeal and replace is back. Take it seriously. Here's what it does

- ✗ Estimated 32 million will lose coverage within 10 years (not yet scored)
- ✗ Ends Medicaid expansion. Health care for 11 million low-income adults.
- ✗ Ends all subsidies for the exchange, replaced by a smaller and declining "block grant"
- ✗ Block grant doesn't have to be spent on same population
- ✗ Cuts coverage for low income seniors, children and people w disabilities by 7% by 2026 with a "per capita cap"
- (Yes, that's right-- a block grant **AND** a Lee capita cap)
- ✗ Ends Federal protections on pre-existing conditions, life time caps and essential benefits. 50% of states expected to do so.
- ✗ Ends all cost sharing payments to low income Americans
- ✗ Ends all funding for coverage by 2026; cuts \$250 billion between now and 2026
- ✗ Average state cut of 17% through 2026, 100% afterwards
- ✗ Averages would be dramatically different: 20 states estimated to lose 35-60% of funding to move money to rural, red states
- ✗ CBO has not estimated impact on premiums, but likely 20% spike next year
- ✗ Would likely be presented to the House as "take it or leave it" if passes Senate
- ✗ Provide no funding for recessions, natural disasters, public health emergencies, or price spikes
- ✗ Targets women's health/family planning
- ✗ Uses the same "50 votes" only partisan technique to pass; upends all bipartisan progress of the last 2 weeks

Source: Centers for Budget and Policy, CBO prior estimates

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cecelia Baty <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Please, please, please LISTEN to ALL of the health care providers, professionals, associations, AND YOUR CONSTITUENTS:

**DO NOT PASS THIS  
BILL!**

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Maggie Nilan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Illness is a Hurricane

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,

Maggie Nilan

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Matthew Backes <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I strenuously oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a pre-existing condition and am soon going to need to change health care plans because of a change in employment. The Graham-Cassidy bill's weak provisions for those with pre-existing conditions could be devastating for me and those who rely upon my well-being.

I urge you to reject this politically motivated, callous bill and support a legitimate bi-partisan effort to improve health care for all Americans.

Matthew Backes  
Bordentown, NJ



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sue Pietrantonio <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Hello:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions is that in the year 2000, I took a medication Vioxx that caused my blood pressure to increase so much that I suffered a heart attack. Also I have a son who has a disability and he depends upon Medicaid for his health care. He works part-time and therefore does not qualify for insurance coverage through his employer. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely  
Susan Pietrantonio

[REDACTED]  
Syracuse, New York [REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carol Martucci <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** "Health" Care Bill

This cruel excuse of a health care bill will devastate millions of people. You need to stop it. Your constituents will be voting you out in droves if not. Or does the Koch Bros. money give you enough to cover your own butts? Do the right thing.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leslie Barkley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham-Cassidy

No, show that you can do the simple math. People will die, people will go bankrupt due to medical costs. This is a choice that is wrong for the american people and the country.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Lisa Barsumian <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:51 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** punishing us in the name of health care

being human should not disqualify a person from health care treatment...it's easier to get advanced medicine for animals than for humans. Please acknowledge that this solely political legislation will have a catastrophic impact and shut this done. Surrender to single-payer, people will be happier and healthier and the GOP can go on and fight about all the other issues it cares about.

Lisa Barsumian  
Santa Fe, NM

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathy Brunet <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSED to Graham Cassidy Bill

I am OPPOSED to the Graham Cassidy Bill.

I have always have coverage through my job. And, as a parent, the thing I have always felt most grateful for was that I had insurance to take my son to the doctor when he was sick.

Please work together with all representatives to create and pass health care laws that provide affordable and equal access to quality healthcare for ALL people in this country!!

Thank you,

Kathy and Steve Brunet  
Durham, New Hampshire

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cathy Cassell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote NO to 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.

Cathy Cassell, LCSW-C  
Program Director  
Channel Marker, Inc.

*\*Please note new business address*

[REDACTED] Easton, MD, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Victoria Barry <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Gillibrand, Kirsten (Gillibrand); schumer, scheduling (Schumer)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Testimony: Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017  
**Attachments:** V.Barry Testimony- Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017.docx

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting personal testimony for the Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017. In 1998, when I was 15 years old, my 42 year old mother died as a direct result of being uninsured. Today, she would have been covered by the expanded Medicaid Program of the Affordable Care Act. Please see the attached document with my full story and feel free to contact me for any additional information.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Victoria B. Barry

[REDACTED] NY, NY [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Matthew Wilkens <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is no solution to bettering healthcare

To whom it may concern,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Due to this practical fact of my life right now, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and support a common-sense based reconstruction of the ACA. I am from Ohio and my life was saved in part by the availability of healthcare services due to the Medicaid expansion in our state. I was living in addiction to opioids and a public healthcare option is what helped me find avenues to treatment as well as restoring my physical and emotional well being from my years in active addiction. The opioid epidemic is sweeping this nation and quality, affordable healthcare options protected in the ACA have helped me and countless others lost in addiction, become productive contributors to our American society again. Please allow the good things to continue happening by funding programs like Medicaid expansion and the ACA that truly work. I would like, as most Americans, to see a bipartisan Congress work constructively to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Wilkens  
Akron, Ohio



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Shannon Enrico [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Comments

Hello,

I am writing to you today to share that my family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions spans over my husband's livelihood. He was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes at the age of 12. He is insulin dependent and requires high-cost prescription drugs on a daily basis. The ACA has made it possible for him to receive healthcare despite his pre-existing condition. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Shannon Enrico

Sacramento, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robert Costello <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

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

Sincerely,

Robert

--  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Carol <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill

Hello,

I am the mother of a young man in his 30s who has been afflicted since he was a child with Chron's disease, including undergoing major abdominal surgery. He is now taking expensive injections to keep his symptoms manageable. Health insurance for him is absolutely essential. He has been unemployed for over 6 months and looking for work, so his health insurance is through the Obamacare exchange. As a result of his pre-existing condition, the Graham- Cassidy bill may well deprive him of being guaranteed access to affordable coverage, something he desperately needs.. Please, do not repeal the ACA and pass this bill!

Very truly yours,

Carol Hartz  
Haverford, PA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rita Monaghan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

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

I am a breast cancer survivor, as is my mother, age 80, who also has diabetes, and relies on Medicaid to help with her nursing home expenses. My daughter is expecting her first child. She is covered under my insurance, but her baby is not. I am hoping for a healthy child, but any complications could mean the child's lifetime cap would be reached almost immediately. The American people have a right to affordable, quality healthcare that covers all basic services including mental health, substance abuse treatment, pre-existing conditions, and all essential health services.

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

Sincerely,

Rita Monaghan

Springfield, Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Keuper <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony opposing Graham Cassidy bill

I am writing to submit testimony regarding the Graham-Cassidy health insurance bill. I urge the members of the committee to reject this bill. There is no CBO score. No Senator can articulate a reason why this is good public policy. It will be devastating to millions. The premium incentive structure it creates flies in the face of the entire purpose of insurance, of creating large pools of people to share risk. Policy experts are unanimous in opposing this bill. Please join Senator McCain in his efforts to restore regular order and resume the work of the committee that was working on a bipartisan plan to stabilize the existing health care markets. Thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marisa Wallin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Healthcare bill comments

To Whom It May Concern,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I work in early childhood education, a field that is incredibly important for society, and generally underpaid.

As a young, otherwise healthy woman, I was recently diagnosed with an autoimmune disease which required a pacemaker implant. I am able to live a normal life with immunosuppressant medication, regular doctor check-ins, and scans. Without affordable insurance, I will not be able to afford this maintenance and will risk becoming very ill and dying at a young age.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with pre-existing conditions supports this. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Marisa Wallin  
[REDACTED]  
Brooklyn, NY [REDACTED]

--  
**Marisa Lark Wallin**

**MS. Ed. Early Childhood Education**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Instagram: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: [REDACTED]  
Etsy Shop: [Etsy](#)

**"Art is a guarantee of sanity. That is the most important thing that I have said." -Louise Bourgeois**

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Becky Askew Chamberlain <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Committee,

I am one of 780,000 Americans with Chron's disease, an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) with no cure. It's treated by medication and, when that fails, surgery to remove infected pieces of the digestive tract. Some patients reach the limit of surgical options (there is only so much that can be removed) and have to live with colostomy bag. These treatments are expensive and lifelong. This is a pre-existing condition that I will always have and have no control over. Giving states and/or insurance companies control over pre-existing conditions is wrong. Every American is granted the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and giving an insurance company the right to deny coverage or set insurance premiums based on a pre-existing condition takes that right away. It is long overdue that the Senate comes together to make a bipartisan effort to hold hearings, gather information, listen to the public and work to improve the existing law. It makes no sense to pass a law that has no CBO analysis, no support from medical groups, no support from the Medicare directors in every state and no support from the public. Please do not support the Graham Cassidy bill.

Thank you,  
Becky Chamberlain  
Utah  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Greg Will <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill - oppose harming US healthcare system

My family like so many others relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. The care that several of my relatives and dearest friends have been able to obtain through the US healthcare system is amazing. I look at the provisions of Graham-Cassidy that would take away preexisting conditions protections and require states to totally redesign the healthcare system in two years with far fewer resources, and I fear for their lives.

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

Sincerely,  
Greg Will  
Chicago, IL



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Aidan Mc Garry <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments

**Subject: NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill**

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I implore you to consider the millions of Americans who rely on the ACA to save their lives! In particular my 14 year old son.

My son was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at the age of 10. Crohn's is chronic inflammation that causes pain and ulcers throughout the entire digestive system. Indirectly, it affects the entire body. Some of these side effects are anemia, Lupus, arthritis, fatigue and even Cancer. My son requires a biologic infusion medication that currently costs \$9,416 every 8 weeks.

Under this new bill, my family will not be able to afford to care for my son due to the fact that this new bill will :

- 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.

Please consider my son's situation and protect his rights...protect his LIFE.

Sincerely,  
**Aidan McGarry**  
Cedar Park, TX

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Brandy Ferguson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**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,

Brandy Ferguson, BA  
Rehabilitation Specialist  
Channel Marker, Inc.  
[REDACTED]

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Notice: This e-mail message, together with any attachments, contains information of Channel Marker, Inc. that may be confidential and is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity named on this message. If you are not the intended recipient, and have received this message in error, please immediately return this by e-mail and then delete it.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rose Nagle-Yndigoyen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy comment

Hello,

All Americans need and deserve quality, affordable healthcare, and its not something you can put a pause on while you figure out the ideal configuration. Because of this, I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. We need a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Rose Yndigoyen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jenna Koonin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a constituent writing to oppose the abominable Graham-Cassidy Bill. As a psychologist and human being, I know the important role the ACA plays in keeping health care affordable; repealing it puts too many lives at risk.

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

Thank you,

Dr. Jenna Koonin  
Brooklyn, New York

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Eric Hochstein <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Legislation

To the Committee Members:

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.

I am a former US Senate staff member, now living in Illinois. I am over 60. I have a number of conditions, including sleep apnea, a herniated disc, and high blood pressure which are all considered preexisting conditions. My wife is a cancer survivor.

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

I fear that should this legislation become law, health care will become out of reach for me. I am an independent consultant and the ability to acquire insurance on the market is one reason why I am able to remain in business. If the cost of insurance increases to the extent that the CBO and others are estimating, it will be impossible for me to pay for the insurance.

(Some Members appear to say the offering of insurance at any price means that it is accessible. There is a difference between accessible and affordable. If insurance is not affordable, then it is not accessible.)

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.

Eric Hochstein  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lisa McConnell [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I wanted to write to let you know of my opposition to the Graham/Cassidy Bill. No protections of pre-existing conditions is not an improvement to what we currently have with Obamacare.

Thank you.

Lisa McConnell

[REDACTED]  
Lincoln, NE [REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Bosox Fan <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill for all the reasons set out below. Thank you.

Graham-Cassidy-Heller (ACA Repeal) Simple Summary

Repeal and replace is back. Take it seriously. Here's what it does

- ✗ Estimated 32 million will lose coverage within 10 years (not yet scored)
- ✗ Ends Medicaid expansion. Health care for 11 million low-income adults.
- ✗ Ends all subsidies for the exchange, replaced by a smaller and declining "block grant"
- ✗ Block grant doesn't have to be spent on same population
- ✗ Cuts coverage for low income seniors, children and people w disabilities by 7% by 2026 with a "per capita cap"
- (Yes, that's right-- a block grant **AND** a Lee capita cap)
- ✗ Ends Federal protections on pre-existing conditions, life time caps and essential benefits. 50% of states expected to do so.
- ✗ Ends all cost sharing payments to low income Americans
- ✗ Ends all funding for coverage by 2026; cuts \$250 billion between now and 2026
- ✗ Average state cut of 17% through 2026, 100% afterwards
- ✗ Averages would be dramatically different: 20 states estimated to lose 35-60% of funding to move money to rural, red states
- ✗ CBO has not estimated impact on premiums, but likely 20% spike next year
- ✗ Would likely be presented to the House as "take it or leave it" if passes Senate
- ✗ Provide no funding for recessions, natural disasters, public health emergencies, or price spikes
- ✗ Targets women's health/family planning
- ✗ Uses the same "50 votes" only partisan technique to pass; upends all bipartisan progress of the last 2 weeks

Source: Centers for Budget and Policy, CBO prior estimates

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Aimee Rosato <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:47 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Too many people I know would no longer be able to afford to take care of their family's health.

Sincerely,  
Aimee Rosato

[REDACTED]  
Astoria, NY [REDACTED]



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Gregory Aloia <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 12:46 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal, September 25, 2017

I am a 66 year old citizen, registered as an Independent voter. Both my wife and I have pre-existing medical conditions, as do most people in our age category. Allowing individual states to determine pre-existing condition coverages and rules is a serious threat to our health & to our financial welfare. It would also limit our ability to move from our current state of residence, if we so chose.

I am also concerned about the social and financial instability that would result from denying adequate coverage to my fellow citizens of modest financial means.

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

A vote to approve this bill would be a travesty and a dereliction of your duty to work for the welfare of all citizens of this country.

Sincerely,

Gregory Aloia  
Lambertville, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lori Coleman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:45 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Lori Coleman  
Franklin, TN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nessa Richman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:42 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** public testimony for Monday's Graham-Cassidy hearing

I 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, Nessa Richman

Kingston, Rhode Island

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Nessa Richman

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** CLAUDIA STORICKS [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** bgerard  
**Subject:** Attached please find my testimony regarding Health Care Changes  
**Attachments:** Claudia ACA story& Chris Medicaid story.docx

I have attached my testimony. I hope it will be included in the hearing transcripts. Thank you.

Claudia Storicks

[REDACTED]  
Pemberton, NJ 08068

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** ceressa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:42 PM  
**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 pay. They need Medicaid in place because some injuries and illnesses and disabilities require due to the fact that the money at sometime 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. ACA allowed us every change of hope without the fear of losing our home. I followed every EOB and statement with Andrew's care to make sure everyone got paid as we were most fortunate to be in the hands of some of the best medical care in our nation, his care, with the long term bills costing the most, was well over 3 million dollars.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ceressa Kunz

[REDACTED]  
Paso de Robles, CA 93446

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Henry Thompson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:41 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.

Mary Henry Thompson  
Memphis, TN

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Griffin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Objection to Graham-Cassidy Bill

Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Joan Griffin. My husband Joe and I are residents of Basye, Virginia. I am writing you to express my objections to the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Joe and I are 62, retired, and like most people our age, have pre-existing conditions (I have arthritis; Joe has allergies and asthma). We purchase our health insurance through the Obamacare exchange. Obamacare isn't perfect (we pay \$2k a month for our policy and are not eligible for a subsidy) but it works. We are very, very concerned that if the Graham-Cassidy bill becomes law, we will be denied coverage because of our pre-existing conditions, or we will not be able to afford insurance.

I urge all senators to vote "no" on Graham-Cassidy should this bill come up for a vote. Please, work with other members of Congress to fix what ails Obamacare.

Thank you for listening to my views.

Joan Griffin  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Basye, Virginia 22810

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** mamajo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Re: "healthcare bill" letter 2

GCHcomments@finance.senate.gov

I just turned 65. In 1959, I had polio through no fault of my own and I will always deal with the after-effects. It will not get easier. I will get hit with much higher healthcare bills with your plan both due to age and my pre-existing condition. I never had a high paying job but paid, faithfully, into my social security and paid, faithfully, any and all taxes I owed to our country and state. But the reality is your bill may make my situation untenable. I will take care of my modest house, my modest care, my food and basic necessities and, oh, how can I do this with huge medical costs?

My husband is younger than I and had, through no fault of his own, cancer. He is considered cured but it is still considered to have a pre-existing condition. Your bill puts us in an impossible situation when we are close to retirement.

How are we supposed to live? Not to mention, there are attacks happening on not just Medicare and regular healthcare but also Social Security.

I work with a food pantry. The vast majority of our clients are working and have families. A smaller portion is elderly and we have seen a rise in their numbers, that is if they can get to us at all. Most of the people come to us because of insufficient wages and, yet, across the country, workers are being denied rights to unions, rights to proper overtime, rights to a living wage. Most of the people we see are downed by car repair they can't afford, medical issues that took the legs out from under them, or similar issues. If reasonable health care becomes unachievable, these people will be sunk totally. If they have homes, they will not be able to afford them and if they rent, they will be making tough choices. If they opt to have no healthcare so they can survive financially, when they get hit with ill health, and most of us do at some time, they will have difficulty getting care.

The vast majority I rub elbows with do not make over \$100,000, or \$70,000 or many, many even \$50,000. And I see from my front porch folks who have no real skills to make a decent wage. So, we all work and do the best we can but it is very difficult. To watch people in congress who all make over \$150,000 making decisions about our lives, well, is frustrating and insulting. You really have no idea how hard it is. And we are told to save for healthcare, save for our children's education, and save for retirement. How? The decisions made in Washington are hitting all these areas, we are supposed to do these things simultaneously, and we are just keeping up with basics.

Healthcare should be a basic right for everyone. You cannot work or support a family without it. The essential benefits are just that:

essential. We live in the most powerful, advanced country in the world, but somehow cannot take care of our own citizens.

Lastly, for a party the claims to be right-to-life, you don't want to make pregnancy expenses essential, you don't want to help with birth control or women's health needs, and you don't want to support abortions. Well, if you don't want to support abortion, you have to help support the people who are trying to do the right thing. Women who do not get the proper care run risks for the babies and themselves.



Ramming a healthcare bill through that will cause pain and disaster throughout the country just to say "I kept a campaign promise" is pretty shallow. How many people on their deathbeds due to lack of care will be saying, "Yes you kept your promise" and thank you?

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Katy Daniel Arnold [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on GCH bill -VOTE NO

Committee,

I am a NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill. My home and current state, Colorado, would be harmed by this type of bill. We expanded under the ACA and it has impacted our state for the better!! Why be punished for that by turning medicaid into block grants? Our state could not support that. And, as a person born with Asthma, who must take daily medicine to breathe and live....why would allowing insurers to opt out of covering preexisting conditions ever be considered a humane thing to do? If I can't breathe, I can't work...and then I couldn't pay taxes to support your paycheck. Just think on that! You work for us, not the other way around... getting rid of the ACA, getting rid of essential benefits, allowing insurers to opt out of preexisting coverage HARMS me, personally. And I take it personally. And don't pull that "you'll have access to coverage" BS. I have dedicated my professional career to nonprofit work...so...not a huge paycheck to allow me to purchase Healthcare that's part of a more expensive high risk pool. I didn't ask to be born with an incurable lifelong disease, but I was, and can't change that, but I must manage it with medicine and Dr appointments.

I am astonished and ashamed by those working to undermine my health, when it's me that pays for you to do a job. It's not right, and it shows you are more beholden to private companies (ahem, insurers) donating to your campaign than you are to the benefit of the people you are supposed to be serving.

Katharine Arnold

[REDACTED]  
Greenwood Village, CO 80121

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Judy Buffo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act

We are the United States of America not the red and blue states of America. I am ashamed of our country: putting greed and politics before the welfare of the people of our nation.

Health care should be a right for all, not just the wealthy or the healthy. I am in favor of fixing what we have, not trusting a replacement that threatens to take away health insurance from millions.

Judy Buffo  
Portland, Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barbara Moore [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 24, 2017 7:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

My 97 year old mother is blind, deaf and has dementia and relies on quality, affordable healthcare. She is in a Nursing Home in Des Moines, Iowa and receives financial help for the Nursing Home costs through Medicaid. She worked all her life and never expected to out live her savings, but she did, and without the support of Medicaid she would not receive the care she needs. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Every working citizen has paid into Medicare and Social Security and expects the government to honor its commitments, we need the ACA to work. Assuring that Medicaid, coverage caps, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, etc. is part of a Health Care plan is important to the well being of all citizen. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Barbara Moore

[REDACTED]  
Sanibel, Florida 33957

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lee Barlow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/Cassidy

In your consideration of this bill please take into account that you will be determining the future of millions who have insurance now. Many of their lives will literally be depending on you. Thank you.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Velandy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Blumenthal, Dick (Blumenthal); Scanlon, Sean (Murphy); 'Nicholas Boreen'  
**Subject:** FW: Graham- Cassidy Bill - Must be brought down for a hard landing. because...It is over the Top as an exemplar of cynicism and ultimate in redistribution of wealth from the have nots to the haves and must be brought down for a hard landing  
**Attachments:** Graham Cassidy -MHSUD Ltr Graham Cassidy Sept 2017.pdf; GRAHAM- CASSIDY 5.docx; Graham Cassidy Bill-2.docx; Graham Cassidy 3.docx; Graham Cassidy 4.docx; Graham Cassidy APA.docx; Graham Cassidy key senators.docx; Graham Cassidy-AMA and AACP.docx; GRAHAM- CASSIDY 5a.docx; Graham Cassidy- 50 State Directors oppose the Bill.docx; Graham Cassidy- Alasks can keep its Obamacare.docx; Graham Cassidy- Deception.docx; Graham Cassidy- Deception.docx; We had to destroy the Village to save it.docx; Curriculum Vitae 07 31 17.docx

Good afternoon,

I was urged to place my testimony on the Graham Cassidy Bill on the record with Senate Finance Committee

I wish to place this response on the record with the Senate Finance committee. How do I offer this official Testimony. I have attached my CV to better acquaint myself to the member of the Committee and am prepared to provide the detailed preparatory background information I sent out to 26 Republican and democratic Members of the US Senate starting early this year in Feb-March 2017. I have been providing testimony since the first term of Mr. Clinton at various stages in the development of Health care reform Legislation.

I welcome your comments.

Best,  
Semper Fi  
May God bless the USA  
Velandy Manohar, MD  
[REDACTED]

NB: I am copying this message to the two the honorable Senators from my State and the Congressman who represents my District. I always keep them on the same page when I pursue legislative Goals that benefits all of our fellow Americans bar NONE!

**Graham- Cassidy Bill** – This must be brought down for a hard landing. because...It is over the Top as an exemplar of cynicism and ultimate in redistribution of wealth from the have nots to the haves.

Good evening,

I am offering you a number of documents to persuade you to vote against the Graham Cassidy Bill

- I. This petition is signed by 469 organizations opposing the passage of Graham - Cassidy Bill to Hon. Sens Graham, Cassidy, Heller and Johnson**

II. A. A description of the provisions of the Graham Cassidy Bill and the adverse consequences of its impact on the health care systems on the medical and financial health of our fellow Americans especially the older, poorer and less well members of our American Family. **Poll: only 24% of Americans approve of Graham-Cassidy**

B. This is also a very specific report on the features and short comings of the Graham Cassidy Bill.

III. A. Hon. Sen. John McCain declares his opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill.  
[www.medpagetoday.com/Washington-Watch/repeal-and-replace/68094](http://www.medpagetoday.com/Washington-Watch/repeal-and-replace/68094)

B. Catholic Advocacy Network (Minnesota Catholic Conference- Protection of Health Care for the Poor and Vulnerable).[Sent by e-mail]

IV. A. Am. Psychiatric Association Urges vote against Graham- Cassidy[Posted on Line]

B. Am. Medical Association and Am. Association of Community Psychiatrists recommends voting against the Graham Cassidy Bill [Posted On Line]

V. "Other Republican plans create a poorly funded version of Obamacare. This one blows the law up entirely." It provides a detailed analysis of the momentum the Graham Cassidy bill garnered that made it the last best hope for the Sen. Republicans. Graham-Cassidy isn't moving forward because it's centrist. It's getting traction because it's the last option left. CBO is CBO and they're saying they need weeks," Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) told CNN Tuesday. "I just reject that notion. And I think we can pretty well decide based on the information we have." This bill isn't about building a health care system that works better or returns power to states. It's about moving forward because it is the last bill on the table and there is apparently still a strong drive among Republican senators to pass a bill before their September 30 deadline. Or, as Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas told Vox recently, "You need a car to get into, and this is the only car there is."

**Sen. Grassley rationale for supporting the Graham Cassidy Bill- 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." Over the Top in Cynicism**

VI. A. Exemplar in Cynicism: Alaska can keep its Obamacare if Sen. Lisa Murkowski *will vote for TrumpCare*

B. Ultimate in Deception: Sen. Mitch McConnell is prepared to destroy Obamacare for everyone in 49/50 states to preserve it for the people of Alaska

C. "We had to Destroy the Village-Ben Tre to save It." The 3/39 Inf. battalion had suffered nearly 100% casualties in 1968 when they ran into withering fire from the entrenched enemy when they called in the Artillery barrage.[I have been watching Ken Burns' soulful elegiac classic exposition "Viet Nam"

**In the current political eco-system of the Senate it is justifiable to destroy Obamacare in the whole United States even though access and health outcomes have improved while protecting the People of Alaska from the ravages of TrumpCare in terms of loss of coverage, decimation of State Exchanges and destruction of the Medicaid systems proposed in the 50 states.**

**VII. A. 50 State Directors of Medicaid oppose Graham Cassidy provisions.**

**B. Doctor, hospital, and insurance groups [Am. Health Insurance Plans] oppose Graham Cassidy**

**I submit 469 organizations and scores of other organizations including Catholic Advocacy Network individually and cumulatively rejects this rationale-**

I urge you to vote against this fraudulent dangerous health care bill that is at its rotten core a massive income re-distribution scheme that can be considered as an improvised incendiary device that blows up state exchanges, mechanisms for funding Medicaid and the safety procedures that ensure equity, justice and fairness in the delivery, funding of health care as well with respect to access, experience of health care, affordability and health care outcomes.

Velandy Manohar, MD



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** David Foster [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill to dismantle key provisions of the ACA.

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marilyn Sonnenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject Graham-Cassidy. The bill is disruptive to health care in almost every state and will have a negative effect nationally. The ACA is not perfect, so take time in 2018 to address aspects that allow big pharma and for profit health care sys...

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Marilyn Sonnenberg  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464-7740

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jeff Naiman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy is a disgrace

An analysis by the Brookings Institute states that the Graham-Cassidy bill could result in 32 million fewer Americans being covered by 2027, and 15 million of those people would lose their insurance in 2018 and 2019.

The capriciousness of the "block grant" approach would allow states to effectively use the political party in power to decide who loses or is eligible for health care. This is an astonishingly misguided and backward step for those already under economic stress, and a regressive plan for a democracy founded on inclusiveness and the protection of every citizen.

A new health care bill, or one that improves the ACA, must only increase the number of Americans receiving health care, not decide who loses it. Can

Congress not put together a healthcare bill where analysts tell us how many more people will receive healthcare?

In addition, pre-existing condition coverage would inevitably weaken, and the idea that individual states could actually construct what would effectively be their own health care systems - by 2020 - is laughable if it wasn't so tragic.

This bill endangers and puts in question the future social welfare of every American, rich and poor.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

I am emailing to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill. From all I have read and heard, it does nothing to improve our healthcare insurance delivery system. In fact, here in California, it would drastically cut Medicaid (Medi-Cal) funding. I know a lot of people who do not have the means to pay for a lot of health care if such funding runs out and they cannot get it through Medi-Cal assistance. So there must be many millions I don't know across the country who would have the same issue.

Many in Congress have for a long time wanted to replace the Affordable Care Act, but there just hasn't been an adequate replacement. Please do not pass this new measure...instead move on to legislation that will help Americans, not hurt them.

All the best,  
Ron Zucker  
San Mateo, CA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Susan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:35 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hands off my health care

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please **DO NOT** under any circumstances get rid of or diminish the Affordable Care Act. The provisions in Graham Cassidy are unconscionable and cruel. Your job is to **serve** and **help** Americans – not enact legislation that will cause suffering and death. I know first-hand what I'm talking about. I've lived through the nightmare of the kind of care Graham Cassidy proposes. Those caps and lack of access to care for those with pre-existing conditions are a death sentence and will hurt millions of us.

Five years ago I was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. I am alive and healthy today **ONLY** because the Affordable Care Act saved my life and gave me access to the health care I needed. I am a small business owner and a mother. I had what I thought was adequate health insurance – but it wasn't. It had a cap that I quickly reached. It doesn't take long to hit a \$100,000 limit when you are receiving chemotherapy. Days really. Three weeks into my first round of treatment, my hospital bills reached \$300,000. A devastating amount for a middle income family.

That cancer diagnosis also brought with it the stigma of having a "pre existing" condition – something that will prohibit access to health care with the legislation being considered. Doctors gave me a 16% chance of surviving with chemotherapy alone and a 50/50 chance of surviving with more extensive treatment. To get that care and that chance, I had to fight for additional health insurance while I was fighting for my life.

It took help from the state health commissioner to get me released from an exhausted health insurance policy that refused to pay for continued treatment. Only then could I apply for additional – more expensive health insurance. That insurance was **ONLY** available to me because Rhode Island was an early adopter of the Obamacare provision that eliminated discrimination against those with pre-existing conditions.

A life-threatening diagnosis is hard enough for a family to work through. Access to life saving care should **NOT** be part of the challenge. Health care should be a right – not something that's only available to the wealthy. Our country is better than that! If other developed countries can deliver excellent health care (and for a lower cost than America) **WE CAN TOO – AND MUST!**

Because you are the Senate Finance committee, you must realize that a healthy country has the best chance at a healthy economy. You've got to take good care of your people so they can be healthy, productive members of society. It may not matter to you that I was there to walk my daughter down the aisle when she got married, and to see my oldest son graduate from college and my youngest achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. It mattered to my family and to me. Perhaps it will matter to you that as a strong and healthy survivor I am contributing more to the economy and to taxes that fund our government than I ever have. That would not have been possible without access to health care. Access that all of us – including you and those you care about – need to be able to count on.

I am appealing to your better nature. I believe you will do the right thing. Millions of us are counting on it. Please do everything in your power to make affordable healthcare available for **EVERY** American. Use your power for good. Use it to save lives and protect care.

Wishing you good health,  
Susan Groh

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ronald S. Gaydos [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:35 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. Its destructive and rancorous beginnings have nothing to do with health care, insurance stabilization, or economic prosperity.

It is a transfer of wealth from working people to the wealthiest Americans, plain and simple.

Please stop recklessly wasting your time, our attention, and refrain from inflicting so much stress and anxiety on 99.9% of all of your fellow citizens.

If you oppose this duplicitous attempt to enrich a few at the expense of everyone else, you have my appreciation. If you support this bill, make one sincere attempt to observe the heartlessly cruel suffering this trickery will inflict.

Ronald S. Gaydos

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Amy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Repeal

The Graham-Cassidy bill is heartless. Gutting Medicaid by giving states block grants will harm millions of our most vulnerable citizens- the elderly, the disabled, children. Also, insurance companies will once again be able to cherry pick covered services. People with Preexisting conditions will be priced out of the market. We expect our government to protect us not harm is. No is the vote.

Amy Shields  
Zip 33762  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** James Oliphint [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:05 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

To whom it may concern,

While it is imperfect the Affordable Care Act was a vast improvement over the existing health care system where people were frequently denied insurance due to pre-existing conditions or if they had insurance could go bankrupt from their bills since there were caps on coverage. Graham Cassidy takes us back to this Wild West where getting sick can bankrupt you even if you are lucky enough to have insurance. The ACA was debated publicly for 18 months and though no republicans voted for it many of their ideas and amendments were incorporated into the final bill. Not to mention the fact that the basic ideas for the ACA originated from the Heritage Foundation as the conservative response to HillaryCare in the 90's.

I implore the senate to heed Senator McCains advice and return to regular order. Go back to the bipartisan compromise being worked on by Senators Alexander and Murphy. Do not rush through a bill that could leave up to 30 million Americans uninsured.

You are playing with peoples lives.

James Oliphint  
Registered Voter



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dee Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:21 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I rely on affordable health care and I do not support the Graham-Cassidy bill. I don't believe it will be sustainable w only Republicans voting for the bill. I will only support a health care bill that is bipartisan. Please work together!

Deidre Smith  
Dublin OH

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare for all because it's right for America

My nanny and cousins rely heavily on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My story with affordable healthcare is nanny and cousins have jobs through which they cannot get insurance, but they need to see doctors for regular tests (mammograms) and doctor visits. Giving healthcare as an opportunity to all benefits all! I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you,

Emily Smith

Falls Church, VA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lauren Lisi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:37 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My immediate family and many of my extended family members rely on the ACA for quality affordable healthcare. I am vehemently opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. It will lead to the loss of healthcare for millions of Americans. We are a big, bountiful country and our public servants should be working towards initiatives that make sure all Americans have basic services, like healthcare. It makes no sense to pass legislation that denies even one additional American healthcare, never mind millions. There is insufficient time for the CBO to even score this bill. It is irrational to legislate without greater data on the effect of this bill. I just spent the last three months being tested for lymphoma. At this point, it appears that I do not have this cancer but I can tell you that the experience was frightening enough without worrying about whether I now had a pre-existing condition which would at some point render me ineligible for affordable healthcare and treatment. I am ashamed of our legislators' efforts to continue to take away healthcare. Their time would be better spent shoring up and fixing the ACA, especially in light of the Trump administration's efforts to sabotage the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Lauren Lisi

Huntington Woods, MI

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Wendy McRoberts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I'm from Texas. No Ted Cruz and John Cornyn don't even try to represent my interests. We had the high risk pools in Texas before. My mother and father were both in it by their 50's and paid \$1200 a month in premiums (more than their house payment) which they lost during bankruptcy due to medical bills. They now barely get by and get anxious every time they need medical care with is now why my father is currently in the hospital with suspected pneumonia and my mom will need help with travel and parking expenses. I would happily provided that if my husband hadn't just returned to work after a lay off and the expenses we incurred during Harvey. Point is, our story is not unusual down here on the Texas Gulf coast. People have lost their homes, their jobs, their friends and family. Please do not take away their guaranteed health care.

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jane Maland Cady [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please do not support the upcoming Graham-Cassidy Bill

My family of six relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. With such a large family and also pre-existing conditions it is really important for us to be able to get the care we need and have a way to pay for it. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Jane Maland Cady  
Rockford, MN

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Suzanne Smartt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please vote no on this latest attempt to repeal and replace

American citizens that I have talked are scared and shocked that the GOP is trying to do lessen healthcare for its own citizens. We believe it is because GPO wants tax cuts for their supporters and donators who are demanding money. We need to separate two issues--healthcare for Americans versus tax cuts/donations. Two separate issues! Please think carefully about who you are hurting.

Thank you for your consideration of this message.

Suzanne Smartt  
Retired high school teacher from Tennessee.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sherrie McNulty [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy healthcare repeal bill

We, as a nation, have the funds and expertise to make quality health care accessible to the majority of Americans if you work together. Graham-Cassidy is not it.

Obamacare is not to blame for our failing medical Care system. It was implemented as a "first step" solution toward making healthcare affordable and accessible. If nothing else, Obamacare limits coverage cost and denied coverage. The Graham-Cassidy bill doesn't do that. It makes us vulnerable to price gouging.

Obamacare was enacted at a time my "preexisting conditions" jeopardized my health care. Giving insurance companies liberty to set prices based on profitability will have the same effect as denying coverage for preexisting conditions. That would be a death sentence!

One of my friends died in 2005 due to limited access to health care and alternating between buying medicine and groceries. She couldn't afford both!

My cousin had to raise \$100,000 in 1993 for her brother-in-law's bone-marrow transplant. She was able to raise the money through donations and a Motley Crew benefit concert, but, the delay cost his life.

She stepped up to the plate again to pay for emergency treatment when my aunt got shot six times by a random shooter. Although her care was immediate, the debt was more than any middle class family could afford.

One of my aunts went to Germany in 1997 for cancer surgery and followup treatments because she couldn't get it here. She said it was cheaper to fly back and forth for treatments than to get them here. I thank God she didn't give up her German citizenship!

Another aunt moved back to Germany because of the deficiencies of American health care. She said she couldn't afford medical care in this country.

My stepson and family moved to England five years ago. Their healthcare is both affordable and superior to ours. They don't plan to return.

Please stop the Graham-Cassidy bill. It is not a solution.

Respectfully,

Sherrie McNulty

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bre [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:39 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote No on Graham-Cassidy

I am the spouse of a military veteran and have healthcare for the rest of my life, but I have children and other family members that I am very concerned about.

Please vote no on this bill it is reckless and dangerous to our children's future. We also have no idea how this bill will impact our economy because no input has been allowed from all players involved in healthcare (patients, doctors, hospitals, clinics and all others I have failed to name).



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Heidi Mayo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Please add my letter to the official hearing record before this Monday morning, September 25.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a 65 year old woman who enjoys good health, though I am a preexisting condition, first, simply because I am a woman, and second, because I've had multiple surgeries for thyroid cancer and must take a thyroid hormone replacement pill every day for the rest of my life - the cost of which has increased exponentially over the years. If the original ACA hadn't been cut off at the knees by the insurance industry's lackeys in our government, we'd all be enjoying the same kind of universal healthcare people in other developed nations do.

One has to wonder just how much money the insurance lobby has poured into the pockets of these so-called representatives who are ready to pass a bill without even reading it, without even understanding its costs, because one thing we can be sure of is, they aren't representing the best interests of the American people.

This bill and its real cost to the health, both financial and physical of our nation and the people in it, needs to be looked at thoroughly, and one brief hearing is a slap in the face to all Americans.

Sincerely,

Heidi Mayo  
Plymouth, MA



Heidi Mayo  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Tresa Grauer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** VOTE NO on Graham-Cassidy

This bill is a travesty.

I would never support any politician who voted to support this bill. Everyone deserves reasonable health care.

Tresa Grauer  
Philadelphia, PA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Philip Rich [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Protect our Health care. Reject Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

The newest version of Trumpcare would kick 32 million people off of health care, devastating working families and rolling back the progress we've made in protecting so many Americans. Hidden in this bill—known as Graham-Cassidy—is also a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has paid nothing in U.S. taxes.

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

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

Philip Rich  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Albany, New York 12203

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

---

**From:** Beverly Doyle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Ladies and Gentlemen:

You have been dreaming about this trip for years, and carefully preparing for months to see your dream destination . . . Paris, or Hawaii, or the Galapagos Islands perhaps. You pack your bags, make sure you have your tickets, and board the plane with great anticipation. And then, as you exit the plane and get a glimpse of your surroundings, you realize that this is not where you expected to be. Somebody made a huge mistake. You desperately try to find out where you are and how you can get to that dream destination, only to discover that you cannot get there AND you cannot go home again, ever. You are stuck in this New World for the rest of your life, whether you like it or not. No lawyer can help.

Welcome to the experience of being a parent of a child born with a disability. Eventually you will probably learn to enjoy this new life, but it will take a while to adjust to the reality that has punched you in the gut, and again in the face, and then knocked you to the ground. There are infant stimulation classes, and special education until your child is 21, and then, if you are lucky, some supported employment or at least a day program for adults with disabilities. And all along, there are a variety of medical problems, and sometimes you have to choose, because of turf battles in the government agencies serving your family . . . yes, you have to choose between the infant stimulation program and the physical therapy your child needs. The agency providing therapy wants the power to say where and when; the agency providing the infant program does not receive funding to provide physical therapy; and no one is willing to have the therapy at the infant program site. And now, some members of Congress are trying to throw another road block in your path because they apparently are still living in the Old World.

My youngest son, Kevin, has Down syndrome. Talk about a pre-existing condition! He has an extra copy of the 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome in every cell of his 4'11" body. He just celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday with an MRI to try to find the cause of his left eye's sudden "crossing" toward the bridge of his nose. You see, it isn't enough to have Down syndrome. He has to have a few other challenges, too, like Hashimoto's disease (autoimmune hypothyroidism) that has killed his thyroid gland, and an arachnoid cyst about the size of a ping pong ball in an area of his brain that would normally control speech (aka expressive language). He is the penultimate "taker" since he cannot earn his way in this world. And yet, for those who will take a closer look, he has so much to offer. He demonstrates gentleness and kindness to anyone he allows in his circle of friends; he has a killer smile that will warm your heart on the coldest day and a wicked sense of humor; and he has taught me the true meaning of unconditional love as no one else ever could.

Please, esteemed Members of Congress, I am 71 years old and am dealing (successfully, so far) with congestive heart failure and COPD, so I, too, have pre-existing conditions. Thankfully, I am on Medicare and now, so is my son. But you cannot possibly know the individual, personal consequences of what "repeal and replace" means to families like mine unless someone like my Kevin is in your family. If you truly grasped the possible end results, how could you do what you are proposing to do? Please consider, instead, finding ways to continue serving the needs of our most fragile citizens. Most of them don't even vote, but their family members do, and we are watching you like hawks.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Betsy Woudenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on Graham-Cassidy

I am moved to write this over concern for how seriously and destructively this bill will disrupt the progress we have made under the ACA to establish reliable and cost-effective healthcare for Americans.

Please stop this ridiculous crusade to repeal and replace the ACA. Keep the ACA, strengthen it, restore it to what was envisioned before vindictive Republicans eviscerated it.

Sincerely,

Betsy Woudenberg  
[REDACTED]  
Vienna, VA 22182

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Caroline Alderman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to bill

I strongly oppose the Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill. It is being rushed through without a CBO score. It is opposed by nearly every health organization and all 50 State Medicaid commissions. Healthcare is 1/6 TH of the economy. I support a bipartisan Congressional commission to create a well crafted highly studied bill in the best interest of Americans...this will only succeed when it become non- partisan.

Caroline Alderman  
South Carolina

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Slettie Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Truth

Please don't vote for this lie. Had "Republican Governors" any real concerns about their constituents ACA would have worked. Put your efforts into saving ACA, not creating new lies!

A concerned citizen,  
Slettie M. Jones

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Laura Keller [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Don't repeal the ACA

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it. The Graham-Cassidy bill hasn't been studied enough, but what I do know is that some states are huge winners and some are huge losers. We can't allow that to happen—we need real health care in ALL states. Please stop the madness.

Sincerely,

Laura Keller



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Darla Farr [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on accessible, quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. At age 24 my son aged out of my Aetna health insurance. When he tried to get his own while working at jobs that did not offer medical coverage, he was denied coverage due to a preexisting condition. He's a young, healthy man and I have no idea what they (Kaiser) considered to be preexisting but they refused him coverage. When ACA was enacted, I knew my son would have health insurance no matter what, and he has. And, by the way, he has not required medical attention in the 5 years since being covered on his own. Why in the world would you not want this for your children?

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

Sincerely,

Darla Farr

Mill Valley, CA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marilyn Tomchuk [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** #GrahamCassidy

Why is it that even the POTUS is asking GOP to sign bill for sake of Party?? He is or can not say anything positive about Bill??

Health Care is a right not a commodity!! ☐ It is time BOTH parties get together to fix the #ACA I will personally start a petition to call it IvankaCare to make the POTUS happy

Marilyn Tomchuk  
[REDACTED]

P.S. Please check out #Homefronthugs Could use help supporting the troops. No Troop should not his or her name at mailcall!! ☐

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Louise Evans [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do not repeal the ACA

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have a nephew born deaf who relies on Medicaid for health care, especially after a recent heart attack. Reducing Medicaid funding would be a real hardship for our family. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Louise Evans  
Wynnewood, PA

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Carol Gray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy to protect Americans' healthcare

Finance Committee,

Graham-Cassidy, the most recent version of "Trumpcare," would kick 32 million people off of healthcare, devastating working families and rolling back the progress that has been made in protecting so many Americans. Also, egregiously hidden in this bill is a \$20 billion tax break for the highly-profitable medical device industry, which has \$230 billion in profits stashed offshore on which it has not paid anything in U.S. taxes.

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

I strongly urge the Senate and the Senate Finance Committee to reject Graham-Cassidy and instead to protect the healthcare of millions of Americans including my family and myself.

It's also imperative that wealthy corporations pay their fair share in taxes. When they do, we'll be able to invest in our country's future, including healthcare for working families. Opposing Graham-Cassidy is the ethical, compassionate course of action. Please take it. Thank you.

Carol Gray  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Bloomington, Indiana 47408

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Christina Connerton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:32 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT REPEAL THE ACA

Hello,

I'm writing about the Graham-Cassidy proposal and the attempted repeal of the ACA. While I can't believe this is still an argument, I think it's imperative I add my story to the stack of, what I am sure is, an unbelievable amount of support for the ACA in an attempt to convince legislators to NOT REPEAL the ACA.

I am extremely lucky in the fact that I am finally working at an establishment that provides me with amazing healthcare. But this was not the case for a very long time. For a long time I was a freelance dancer and full-time bartender, working up to 7 days a week, on my feet, to pay my staggering student loans and provide for myself. When I graduated college at age 20 in 2009, I also lost my health coverage. My mother had health insurance, but could not afford to pay for me to be on it and I couldn't afford it either. I was immediately turned down for affordable insurance because the insurance company believed my seasonal allergies qualified as a pre-existing condition. At age 20, I was uninsured and out of luck. I lived in New York at the time and met some extremely generous doctors who took their time and money out of their own pocket to provide me with accessible healthcare.

When the ACA passed, my mother still couldn't afford to add me to her insurance, even though I was now "allowed" to be on it until age 26. But I was able to find healthcare. Was it amazing? Not exceptionally. Was it extremely affordable? It wasn't the cheapest, but it was something. And it provided me with a safety net. I was able to pay my monthly rate and have access to care should something happen to me.

Throughout these experiences, I also relied on medicaid a few times. This even happened after I stopped dancing and started going to grad school and working in social work, while continuing to bartend to pay my bills. Not everyone who needs affordable healthcare is lazy or even destitute -- though even if I was, I still believe I should have had access to care.

Medicaid was by far the best option and let me see the most doctors with the best quality of care. But I don't believe I would have had access to this without the ACA.

I agree with some people who say the ACA isn't the best we can do. But not because we should take access *away* from more people. I believe it can be made MORE affordable, MORE accessible, and MORE reliable. It could be easier to navigate, more guaranteed, and quality for all. It could be universal.

But to take it away and slash benefits, slash care, and leave millions of people uninsured and hopeless -- what kind of country would we be? And what kind of citizen would I be if I had benefitted from it once and didn't speak out on it now that I had healthcare provided to me through my work?

I urge everyone please vote no on repealing the ACA and to keep fighting for better, more accessible, more affordable quality care for ALL of our citizens.

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

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**From:** Barb Allee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Act

Rarely has something so united America - but then again, who ever expects to see a bill pushed that is so clearly against ALL the American values that my Vietnam veteran father fought for (21 yrs, Air Force).

### **I urge you all to say NO to a bill that:**

- Has NO complete CBO score (simply unethical and against established order)
- Will put healthcare out of reach of 10s of millions of Americans
- In doing so will cause untimely deaths for many of those Americans
- Has had no bipartisan input and hearings
- Has had no public hearings (Or are you counting that measly 90 seconds?)
- Will punish states that accepted the ACA Medicaid expansion, and in doing so greatly benefitted their residents.
- Will destroy the lives of Americans through medical bankruptcy
- Does not adequately cover pre-existing conditions
- Considers childbirth a pre-existing condition (Do you people even remember that YOU were once born to a woman?!)
- Does not cover basic health needs

If you cannot see that your tax break for the wealthy is based on being allowed to harm and kill your neighbors - THE VERY SAME ONES THAT PAY YOUR SALARY AND HEALTHCARE - then God have mercy on your corrupt souls.

Barb Allee  
Duluth, Minnesota  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marilyn Sonnenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:33 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please assist us in protecting the current Affordable Care Act and making reasonable modifications to the Act in 2018. PLEASE do not support the hastily proposed Graham-Cassidy Act. First, think of the IT changes that will be required if this bill i...

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Marilyn Sonnenberg  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464-7740

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Michelle Neal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:31 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA Story

My name is Michelle Neal and I live with my family in New Orleans, LA. I am writing to express my concern about repealing the ACA. Here is why:

Fifteen years ago my husband and I adopted a special needs group of three children through the foster care system. All had some form of mental/emotional disability. The oldest, who is 22 now, is currently living in a group home paid for my Medicaid and she receives a small stipend from Social Security to cover her monthly expenses. She has been diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, developmental disabilities and most recently, Schizophrenia. The shot she takes every month to manage her schizophrenia, costs Medicaid \$4,000. She has been in and out of psychiatric hospitals and facilities for most of her life and will require life-long assistance to lead as independent a life as possible.

Her younger brother, now 18, has been diagnosed with dissociative disorder, PTSD, ADHD and depression. He also, has had several placements in psychiatric facilities. His therapists believe that he, too, will require some type of life-long assistance and currently takes seven different medications to manage his disabilities.

The youngest of the three, now 17, has severe ADHD and PTSD. He has been on maximum doses of ADD meds since first grade.

I have been a Type I diabetic for the last thirty years. I can remember back when insurance wouldn't cover my test strips, insulin or syringes because of my "pre-existing condition." Last year I was diagnosed with Stage 3 uterine cancer, which required seven months of chemotherapy and a radical hysterectomy. Today, because I was lucky enough to have health insurance, I am cancer-free (although we paid nearly \$9,000 in copays and deductibles last year).

All of us are in the category of "pre-existing conditions" and with the exception of my youngest, are in danger of reaching lifetime caps. If lifetime caps were legal last year, I would have hit it after my fourth round of chemotherapy. My daughter, after her third psychiatric hospital stay (costing more than \$150,000) would have hit hers.

My children receive extensive mental health services, which are often the first to be cut from insurance policies (as the proposed bill reflects). No longer do we have to worry about paying out of pocket because we used our 10 therapist visits in the first three months of the year (that's IF our insurance covered mental health services at all). This is because of the ACA and the requirement to cover mental health at the same level as physical health.

What most people don't understand about the ACA is that it benefits even those of us who receive insurance through our employers. Pre-existing conditions clauses, lifetime caps, limits to mental health services, restrictions on mental health medications, all went by the wayside because of the regulations associated with the ACA. For these reasons, and because the lives of my family members and myself depend on the care and services we receive today, I do not support the proposed Graham Cassidy bill. Nor do I support a repeal and replace strategy. Simply work with the Democrats to tweak the problematic areas of the ACA. Make the ACA better, make it more efficient. Do not allow the states to determine whether they will allow pre-existing conditions or lifetime caps. I live in Louisiana. I DO NOT trust my state government to do the right thing, especially where health care is concerned.

Sincerely,  
Michelle M. Neal



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Betsy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, and Senate Finance Committee Members,

Before the Affordable Care Act I was unable to afford medical insurance for some 25 years. I received no medical care unless I was extremely ill or needed emergency treatment. When coverage became available through the Marketplace Exchange, I immediately signed up and have remained insured ever since. Now I receive annual physicals, mammograms, lab tests, and routine followup appointments that help me manage chronic health conditions. I can see my family physician for care that formerly required me to visit the emergency room as an indigent patient.

Most importantly, the ACA saved my life when a large precancerous polyp was discovered and removed during a screening colonoscopy that I would never have obtained without ACA coverage. Following that colonoscopy, the gastroenterologist advised that I remain at risk for colon cancer and should receive another screening in 2018. Now I am afraid of losing coverage for that followup screening.

Also, my 89 year old mother resides with me. She suffers from Stage 6 dementia, hyponatremia due to pituitary gland malfunction, and several other conditions requiring intermediate nursing home level care and supervision which I furnish. Without the Medicaid Aged and Disabled Waiver program, we would have no alternative to permanent facility placement at much greater cost to the state and federal government. Graham-Cassidy jeopardizes this program, which pays me roughly \$1,200/month to provide 24/7 care, compared to nearly \$7,000/month in government expense if she is consigned to a nursing home. Multiply that by the millions of people who will be similarly affected and you can appreciate the fiscal irresponsibility inherent in this bill.

While Graham-Cassidy proponents make much of words like “accessibility” and “freedom,” I can not absorb the projected premium increase under this bill. I will not benefit from the “freedom” to choose between electricity and medical insurance. *“Accessibility” means nothing to those who can't afford it.* Graham-Cassidy would result in coverage loss to millions who need it the most. Many insurers, all 50 state Medicaid directors, and every leading patient and physician group believe this bill is deeply flawed.

Graham-Cassidy fails to address the real factors that drive high health care costs: avaricious insurance companies, greedy pharmaceutical firms, profit-driven hospital corporations, and lobbyist dollars influencing legislation. Until you and your esteemed colleagues confront these causative factors, you're merely playing a shell game with peoples' money and health.

I'm appalled that legislators would consider jeopardizing citizens' health in order to finance tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations that already enjoy record profits. I will continue closely watching Senate and House deliberations on health care with an eye toward the 2018 and 2020 elections. No legislator who supports Graham-Cassidy will have my vote.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** David Stevens [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

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

In the last 5 years both my wife and I have had significant health issues needing surgery and hospitalization. We have received fantastic care and have made full recoveries. We are both able to continue contributing to the economy in our community. Because we have good health insurance we have not been saddled with a crippling financial burden. All Americans should be eligible for this kind of insurance.

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

Sincerely,

David Stevens

Mahtomedi, MN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jill Hodge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Graham-Cassidy Plan

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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

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

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Jill Hodge  
[REDACTED]

Melbourne, FL 32940  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Cathy Derezinski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No Graham- Cassidy

NO to Graham-Cassidy  
Cathy Derezinski  
[REDACTED]  
Amherst Jct, WI. 54407

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anne Bohart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act should be improved, not replaced with a hail mary bill that deprives millions of insurance, reduces aid to those in need of affordable health care and takes away protections from those with pre-existing conditions. Please do what is right for the majority of Americans.

Thank you,  
Anne Bohart  
Hendersonville, TN

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] behalf of Brad Detjen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments for the public record on Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Members of the Senate,

It is a moral failure that in the United States, the wealthiest and most technologically advanced country in the history of the world, we do not guarantee healthcare to our citizens. Any measure that will increase the number of people without health insurance should be dismissed.

Health policy experts agree that the Graham Cassidy health bill will increase the number of people without health insurance, and will fail to protect people with pre-existing conditions.

Please act with your conscience and do not pass the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Thank you,

Brad Detjen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** PMF [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it may concern;

Vote no on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill.

My husband (Retired U.S. Army) and I have had government run health care for 38 years, and while it's not a Cadillac Spa plan, it is so much better than those who have nothing. Some version of it should be available to everyone - and Virginia will not make that happen.

DO NOT turn health care into another VA Retirement Home state run system - where just a decade ago Virginia had none, and Florida is stuck footing the bill for many more military retirees who migrate there. When my Father needed care, he could only qualify for in FL where he had lived for 15 years or Pennsylvania (his residence when he joined the Army during WWII and not lived since 1945) but not Virginia where he had lived for most of his life. Many states had two year residency requirements which he could not pass.

And that's what health care will look like if you pass Health Care to the states. How many will lose health care for how long whenever they move from state to state for better jobs?

Wait for the CBO and work on a joint effort that works for all Americans and one that doesn't polarize America even more with have vs the can't have.

Thank you,

Pamela M. Fukumitsu  
Fairfax, VA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katherine Pflaumer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:00 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

The passage of Obamacare was the first time I've been able to buy insurance that actually helped me pay for my medical care. Prior to that, I was engineered out of any compensation by having to wait 6 months every year for my "preexisting condition" waiting period to be over and then having the amount of healthcare I was allowed to receive capped before I even made my deductible. This was common. I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because I cannot afford to go back to those days when I struggled every month to come up with money to pay my bills. And I know many others with disabilities or chronic conditions who will be excluded from care if preexisting condition coverage and cap-free care are gone or Medicaid is block-granted. Please don't pass this bill.

Katherine Pflaumer  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel Wheeler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

I am a family physician. Professionally, I have cared for uncountable numbers of patients over the years who have had difficulty following up on grave conditions because of lack of adequate health insurance. It is simply not true that uninsured patients will be OK because of the requirement that emergency rooms provide emergency treatment. Nobody gets a follow-up on an abnormal mammogram, stool test, or Pap smear in the emergency room.

Personally, I retired before age 65 to help care for my mother with dementia and keep her at home. After COBRA access finished, I have been reliant on Obamacare for basic health insurance for myself. A person never knows what the future will bring in life: that is the whole point of insurance.

Health care reform will require a serious bipartisan effort. Stop the grandstanding and sound bites, please.

Rachel Wheeler MD

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:50 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Carolann

Gentlemen,

Good morning, I am a parent of a child with significant health issues. Your proposed bill will utterly destroy people who like my daughter needs health care to become a functional member of society. By cutting these proposed services you are indeed hurting many Americans chance at living a productive life. Please look closely at the impacts you plan will cause and find another way to get this done.

Sincerely,

Carolann T. Richard

[REDACTED]

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

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**From:** Beth Olson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA reform, not repeal

The Affordable Care Act should be improved, not replaced with a hail mary bill that deprives millions of insurance, reduces aid to those in need of affordable health care and takes away protections from those with pre-existing conditions. Our family has benefited greatly from the ACA: coverage of adult children allowed my daughter to work and save a year after college, then attend graduate school. Coverage of mental health has allowed a family member to overcome life threatening mental illness. Coverage of pre-existing questions allows all our family to have continuous care that prevents future illness and related COSTS to ALL. Prevention, proactive care, not dependent on the whims of state governments, is what ACA is about.

Beth Olson  
Middleton, WI

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Stacy Cohen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:58 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.

Stacy Cohen  
Moorestown, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** busymombarge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham -Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Vote No!

Thank you,

Kristen Barge

[REDACTED]  
Verona, WI 53593

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill September 25 2017  
**Attachments:** image1.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

Hearing to consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Bill September 25 2017

Margaret Wood  
[REDACTED]

Norwood, MA 02062

NO

Please consider the effects of the proposed bill on children like my daughter, Eleanor, who through no fault of her own battles a chronic incurable lung disease. She will always have a pre-existing condition, and Medicaid has helped us afford her medical bills. Our family pays taxes, my husband works full-time and has primary insurance through his employer. We use Medicaid as little as possible- we receive no in-home nursing, keep doctors appointments and therapies to a minimum, and as Eleanor's full-time caretaker I do her nursing care.

Please do not punish Eleanor for being sick. She fights every day of her life and is an inspiration.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Wood

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** kellie r [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on Graham Cassidy

To whom it may concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have obtained health insurance in many ways: from my employer, from a union, from a marketplace. The only way I could branch out on my own and start my own business was because of the ACA. As my own boss, I can purchase my own health insurance — and I get help to do that. If you repeal the ACA, you will kill my business and my livelihood. I have a pre-existing condition and I fear I will be left with higher unaffordable premiums because of this. That fear is real. My premiums have actually decreased since ACA was passed.

I do not understand why this bill is being presented and voted on without due process. The ACA was debated for over a year - why is this being rushed through?

I am also concerned that almost every medical association is opposing this bill. Every doctor, every nurse, every healthcare worker. Don't you think that the voice of the people on the frontline matter at all?

I would like to see a **bipartisan Congressional effort** to improve the ACA, not repeal it. You promised you would work together when the last repeal effort failed. Were those just blatant lies?

Kellie Rogers

Brooklyn, NY

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

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**From:** Sonny Paluzzi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing Sept 25 2017

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
September 25 2017  
Alfred Paluzzi  
[REDACTED]

Daytona Beach FL 32114

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you to implore you not to pass the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill. Republicans are supposedly the party of fiscal responsibility, yet on this matter, the Republicans appear willing to dispense with any fiscal oversight. It is incomprehensible that a bill which affects one sixth of the U.S. economy could be considered without a full CBO score, without knowing how many citizens will be affected, and without knowing its full effects on the economy. Every single group and organization that is in any way involved with healthcare has come out firmly in opposition to this bill, from businesses to medical professionals and every other group which would be economically devastated by this bill. The overwhelming majority of voters, Democrats and Republicans and those without a party affiliation, are overwhelmingly opposed to this bill. This majority of the United States is overwhelmingly in favor of a bipartisan approach to repairing the Affordable Care Act so that we can have healthcare the way every other developed country does, while simultaneously protecting our economy. I am urging you to not pass this abomination of a bill in opposition to the majority of your constituents. I believe it is imperative, as the committee whose task it is to oversee the finances of our government, that you fully consider all the ramifications of this bill instead of irresponsibly rushing it through without thorough vetting. If it was truly a good bill, it would not have to be done this way. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

Respectfully, Alfred Paluzzi



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Barb Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

This bill would be devastating to our family. Please do not repeal the ACA.

Barbara Smith  
Williamsport, PA. 17701

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Valerie Deichert [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Hi

I am writing to urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy. There is a bi-partisan effort that was not explored. Graham-Cassidy would cause 32 million Americans to lose insurance. Premiums would increase. People with pre-existing conditions will lose coverage. There is no CBO score and the details are still being re-written in order to gain favor with those who currently oppose the bill.

This bill is a lose-lose for the country.

Thank you,

Valerie Deichert

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Erin Fabrizius [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Survival Coalition  
**Subject:** Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations Testimony on GCHJ  
**Attachments:** SurvivalTestimonyonGrahamCassidy.pdf

Hello,

I am submitting the following testimony on Graham-Cassidy on behalf of the Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--  
Erin Fabrizius

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Desi McKenzie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony RE: GRAHAM-CASSIDY BILL HEARING  
**Attachments:** DESIAUBMISSHAWPRUNCCROP.jpg

- **Title Of Hearing: Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing**
- **Date of the Hearing: September 25, 2017**
- **Desiree A. F. McKenzie**
- **[REDACTED] Mililani, Hawaii 96789**

Dear United States Senate Finance Committee Members,

May 4, 2017 was the most devastating day of my adult life. I formerly thought that the day I discovered that I was carrying a child with Down syndrome was. No. That wasn't. May 4, 2017 was the day that "Trumpcare" passed the House.

18 years ago, when my husband left--just a week after my youngest child's vascular surgery--I became a single Mom to two beautiful daughters.

I am so proud to say that my oldest, Ashley, just graduated from Pacific University last Spring and currently is in her first year of law school at Seattle University Law.

My youngest, Aubrey (Miss Hawaii Universal Princess 2016) who was also diagnosed with Autism and Hearing Impairment is also very capable in her own unique way--but unfortunately--has been under-valued and thus under-serviced in her high school for years now.

Advocacy for Aubrey in the DOE has been absolutely exhausting physically, mentally and emotionally as she long been denied the appropriate Expressive Communication supports AND the appropriate critical Autism Intervention that she so desperately needs to learn.

With the drastic cuts to Medicaid in this bill many students with disabilities will lose these types of supports in their schools, as well as critically needed physical, speech and occupational therapy; as the DOE relies on reimbursements from Medicaid to provide them.

Besides often being their PRIMARY HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM over 10 MILLION PEOPLE with disabilities rely on Medicaid Programs to live, work and participate in their communities. Many like Aubrey could lose their aides like Mrs. Kelly, nursing services, medical equipment and most devastating to someone like Aubrey—is her assistive technology.

Living here in Hawai'i is now almost impossible for a single parent family. I am a sole proprietor because I must have the flexibility to care for Aubrey when she is ill—which is often.

And for those who ask why we haven't already done so--moving to a more cost-effective state is not feasible as Aubrey's Dad lives in Hawai'i not to mention that Aubrey is currently afraid to fly.

For several years we have struggled to pay our mortgage because as a Senior Citizen and sole proprietor—I paid up to a \$675 monthly premium *just for myself* to Kaiser. To save our home, on December of 2016, I made the inevitable decision to switch to the ACA also known as “Obamacare” in order to afford the monthly premium despite its high deductibles.

Should the Graham-Cassidy bill pass, it is estimated that as a 62 year old woman I will be paying in excess of \$1600 month for insurance.

But then, wait a minute. I will no longer be insurable as because of all of this stress I have blood pressure. And this bill will make me completely uninsurable.

The long-term result of paying these high premiums has devastated us financially. I have no retirement left. I have no savings left. I so wish that I could get a full-time job with medical insurance and facilitate the needs of a young adult with multiple disabilities at the same time.

Should the Graham-Cassidy bill pass the Senate there is no doubt that we will lose everything--but most importantly I will not survive.

There is no way that I want my epitaph to read “Left her disabled daughter alone.”

Aubrey's primary medical insurance is provided by my former husband, THANK GOD, however, we are now unsure if he will be able to keep her on his policy and for how long. Her secondary insurance is HMSA Quest aka Medicaid. I could never afford the copays for her multiple doctor visits and medications.

There is a presumption that people like myself drain the system. Someone like myself, who has done everything *she* possibly could to bring up her children to be industrious, good and giving people. Someone like myself who has worked so hard over the years to have a healthy business that makes a significant contribution to our community. Someone like myself that has serviced and fought tirelessly for children and adults with disabilities.

We give MORE to our community than any other single parent family I know!!!

EVERYONE in America has the right to Affordable Healthcare!

In any case- NOT ONE of US DESERVES TO DIE for lack of it.

The Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill is GENOCIDE.

I simply say to the Senate—

My daughter Aubrey's middle name is "Lohelani" which in Hawaiian means "Listen to Heaven!"

Are you listening?

(AUBREY'S TURN)

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

WE WANT TO LIVE!

MAHALO!

I LOVE YOU!

Thank you for doing what is PONO (right and just).

Desi and Aubrey McKenzie



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kiona.allen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

Dear men and women of congress,

I am a 35 year old American taxpayer and I am also a physician who takes care of some of our most vulnerable: children with congenital heart disease. Your bill threatens the very lives of my patients. Like basically every major hospital and medical organization, I strongly oppose this bill. Please don't do this to my patients or to their families that are already struggling. Say NO to Graham Cassidy!

Kiona Allen, MD  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rachel May [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, 9.25.17

Good morning,

Friends and members of the faith community which I lead rely on quality, affordable healthcare. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill primarily because there are no guarantees that individuals with pre-existing conditions (who buy insurance on the individual market) would be able to purchase insurance under Graham-Cassidy. Also, limits on federal support for Medicaid will directly impact poor children; as children, *they cannot choose the state in which they live*. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA.

Sincerely,  
Rachel May

[REDACTED]  
Richmond, VA 23221

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rabbi-to-be Jeremy Kridel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear Senators,

I'll be brief: I have a child with autism for whom access to health insurance has been and will likely again be essential to his ability to live and be productive. And I'm imploring you to vote against any form of ACA repeal that doesn't ensure coverage at least as thorough and available as what exists now.

I could cite study after study, but instead I'll simply say this: people will suffer and die if the ACA is repealed and "replaced" by the feeble excuse of a plan that is the Graham-Cassidy bill. That this country might become the cruelest place imaginable—one that intentionally deprives its citizens of life-preserving and life-saving measures because federalism and state experimentation seems attractive—is deeply disappointing to me.

"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?" Is. 58:6

Don't place the yoke back onto children like my son. Don't make America cruel.

Save the ACA.

—  
Jeremy Kridel  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

--  
Jeremy Kridel  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Pratool Gadtaula [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Kill the bill

This bill is an outrage for American citizens.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Chad and Brandi Polatty [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Letter

Dear Senators,

Right now, my boys are sitting at our hand-me-down dining room table playing on computers that educate them during the school year as online students.

They are building and designing games on Roblox Studio. Together, they've created a group where they assign tasks to members. They pay people to do jobs they haven't yet learned to do themselves with the Robux they save each month from their games.

They apply rules to their group, moderate the members, and set training sessions to teach those members how to contribute to their little world.

My boys are happy, well adjusted, and thriving despite their life-threatening diagnoses. They are very much like your children despite the feeding tubes currently infusing hydration into their bellies, the CPAPs they use to breathe when they sleep, the oxygen that supplements the air they inhale, the wheelchairs they use to navigate long distances or times when they are required to stand for extended periods, despite many medications that help their bodies perform basic tasks like digesting their food, and despite the immunoglobulins that cost thousands of dollars a month that provide an immune system so they can actually go in public without getting sick.

Why am I telling you this?

When I had my oldest, Noah, I thought my life would be filled with play dates, birthday parties, seeing my child in the hall at the school he attended and I taught at. I imagined vacations to the beach in the summer, the mountains in the fall, and watching my husband coach his Little League games with weekends spent watching Tennessee football on top of 'ol Rocky Top as a house divided (Go Gamecocks!).

I never imagined I'd become so skilled I'd be teaching nurses strategies on how to tape GJ-tubes to prevent them from being pulled out or telling doctors which gauze causes the least amount of granulation tissue around

a stoma. I didn't even know what a stoma was. I dropped biology in college in favor of plant science. It was the last class I took before I student taught, and I took it a semester all by itself after I'd had Noah so I could have more time at home with him before jumping into my career. I remember talking to my professor about how sick he was, and him comforting me that he'd be OK.

Why am I telling you this?

Twelve years into being a mother, I have learned to fight like I've never fought before — and also learned way more biology than I ever imagined. See, when everything is so out of control — when you lose the ability to tell your child they will be OK, when they ask you if they're going to die from their disease and you don't want to lie, but you don't want to tell the truth — you learn to fight for cures, and awareness, and a way to distract them. When they can't play Little League and have to see life and Rocky Top from afar, when you have to tell them no Tennessee football games because of their health, you find new dreams to replace the old. You fight to make all the wishes come true.

You especially learn to fight when you have go neck and neck with doctors who think they know your child better than you.

Doctor: Well, he looks great to me.

Me: Smiles and nods while thinking, "But you just met him."

Fighting is taken to a whole new level when the people who should be on your side, who should value your opinion and trust you can't get past their ego, and you can't fight them because they hold all the power over whether you take your child home. Knuckles get bruised when you attempt to educate a school about your child's disease, but they're unwilling to learn — when they refuse to provide even basic services, like making sure they don't accidentally kill your child while he's there for a few hours.

You develop this hard shell of an exterior like a turtle. You learn that slow and steady wins the race, but you wish you were a rabbit because you're tired and wonder what it'd be like to have a little extra energy. You know if you poke your head out too far, you could get hurt. Sometimes it's just easier to stay inside where it's safe, where no one judges your speed, your fights, your advocacy, your children, their disabilities, your parenting. Should I post this to Facebook or write it in a journal? Will they judge this?

Why am I telling you this?

Because despite all of these things, my kids are sitting next to me on computers thriving. Do you know why? Because the state of Georgia and the federal government recognized this is the best place they could possibly be — with people who love them, in a home they call their own, doing all the things they are able to do — not focusing on the things they can't. They recognized that doing this is cost effective for the state and federal government. But more than that, they recognized that my children are worthy of a life — of breathing air, digesting food, playing games, laughing, learning, and loving others.

We are barely able to stay afloat. We've already nearly lost everything once (pension, 401k, savings, deep debt that's still plaguing us). The ACA allows us protections. It makes it to where my husband no longer has to stay at a low paying job solely because of the benefits, which he's had to do before.

There are so many costs Medicaid doesn't cover monthly that we gladly foot the bill for because we love our children, and there's nothing we wouldn't do for them. But without Medicaid, there's nothing we will be able to do for them because we wouldn't be able to afford it. If we go backward to allowing insurance companies to discriminate against children like mine for pre-existing conditions and re-instating lifetime caps, we'll be more of a burden to Medicaid as our lifetime caps would have been met long ago and would only take a short period of time to meet again.

There's no way you can decrease funding to states and allow people to continue to receive the same level of care. The first programs to be cut will be optional programs like home and community based waivers, affecting hard working families like ours.

My children meet institutionalized level of care. That means if we can't care for them at home, their needs are extensive enough that they'd need to be in a nursing facility. Even with our care, the state just approved them both for 40 hours *each* of home health nursing in addition to what we provide. *That* is their level of their care. Not a personal care assistant. Not a CNA. The state of Georgia has approved an RN to be in our home for 80 hours a week in order for them to get the care they need while continuing to thrive, to live as full of a life as possible.

Did you know that our primary insurance pays first for all our children's needs before Medicaid and the state of Georgia?

If you give states the freedom to take that away from us, allow per person caps, and limit the funds sent to each state, you're dramatically increasing the burden on Medicaid.

Explain to me how you expect my children to not become a casualty in this war the GOP is waging against anything Barack Obama did?

So I just want to say that I hope when you think about where you're sending our tax dollars (or in this case not sending), you'll think about my children playing on their computers, beating odds, and thriving while doing so. It's because of Medicaid that that's the case.

We won't be fooled into thinking this new, rebranded version of Trumpcare labeled as Graham-Cassidy gives the states more freedom. It doesn't. It's basic math. Less money equals less services. The first to be cut will be the ones who need it the most. The people who abuse the system will always abuse it. The people who use it honestly will always be honest. We are the ones that will suffer.

My children's lives aren't a line item on a budget. They're not a negotiating point. Don't tell me this is about government conservatism. The only things I'm interested in conserving are their lives, their ability to sit at my hand-me-down dining room table wiggling in my chairs while playing their games.

The only worry I should have right now is whether they're going to break those chairs, not whether our country is going to break us.

Sincerely,

Brandi Polatty

[REDACTED]

Buford, GA 30519

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Halley Pollock-Muskin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Kill the bill

I oppose the Graham Cassidy bill. It will make healthcare inaccessible for millions of Americans.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Myr Leake [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal/Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer in 1968

September 25, 2017

Peaches Leake

[REDACTED]  
Chesterfield, MA 01012

In 1968 I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I had a radical mastectomy. My liquid silicone form cost \$40. The cost of the form was NOT covered by insurance as the forms were considered cosmetic. Today, almost 50 years later, the forms are covered by insurance. My last form, covered by Medicare, cost \$400. What happens to poor women with breast cancer under this new bill? Will their breast prosthesis be covered by Medicaid? I had continued health care coverage because my husband worked for a large corporation. If he had been self employed, I WOULD NOT HAVE HAD ANY HEALTH COVERAGE until I turned 65 . . .

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Smith Boylan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill

Please oppose this attempt to take health insurance away from millions of Americans. Please do everything you are able to stop this horrible bill in its tracks, and if it makes it to the floor, please vote no.

Jennifer Boylan  
Barrington, RI

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Margaret R Kasschau [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy bill

Some of my family have no other healthcare and rely on quality, affordable healthcare from Medicaid. 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 Kasschau

Keene, New Hampshire 03431

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Margaret Hedgecock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on the Graham-Cassidy bill

My family relies on affordable, quality healthcare. That is why I oppose this Graham Cassidy bill.

My mother in law was in the last year or so of her life. We had supported her as much as possible, financially and emotionally. When her assets were used up, we had to rely on Medicaid for her nursing home care. We are a hard-working middle class family, but nursing home care was unaffordable without Medicaid.

I believe that a bipartisan Congressional effort can made to improve the ACA, Please, do NOT repeal it.

Thank you,

Margaret Hedgecock  
Coupeville, WA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Marti Rosenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham will hurt Americans

The first rule of healthcare is do no harm.

All of the healthcare community is coming together to show that Cassidy Graham will harm people who are ill and need care.

Please vote against it and work on real reforms to the system.

Sincerely,

Marti Rosenberg  
[REDACTED]  
Cranston, RI 02905

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dale Glaser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy must not become law

Please do not pass Graham-Cassidy. I have a three year old niece who was born with spina bifida. She will never be able to afford health insurance if protections for pre-existing conditions are allowed to be waived away. This bill is a tax giveaway to the super wealthy, a regulatory giveaway to insurance companies, and a raw deal for the rest of America. No Graham-Cassidy!

Thank you.

Dale W. Glaser

[REDACTED]  
Manassas VA 20110

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Myrna Ivonne Wallace Fuentes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I am appalled that the Senate, often lauded as one of the world's great deliberative bodies, would consider reorganizing one sixth of our economy without due-- or really any-- deliberation at all. Why can't it wait for the CBO score? Why not allow the myriad of health system stake holders to testify? Why the rush to pass through reconciliation, a naked admission that this is not about policy, not about making health care better, but about the most crass political calculations?

We are not "externalities" to be ignored by that calculation. I have a brother who would be uninsurable because of a surprise stroke as a young man. Do not condemn him, and millions of others, to bankruptcy, unthinkable choices, sickness, and death.

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.

Ivonne Wallace Fuentes  
Roanoke, VA

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kopel, Teresa R [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH Bill

I urge you to not continue on this path. The ACA may need to be revised, but must not be repealed. There are far too many American citizens who depend on the ACA for their healthcare. Many, like my husband, have pre-existing conditions and would not be able to find or afford any other healthcare. We need a bipartisan effort to amend the ACA, not repeal it!

Teresa Kopel  
Iowa City, IA

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## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kathy O'Meara-Wyman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

My concerns about the proposed legislation:

The Graham-Cassidy bill, like previous bills to repeal health care that were already rejected this summer in the Senate, would have a devastating impact on America's families. Specifically, Graham-Cassidy would:

- Cause more than 30 million people to lose their health insurance
- Make devastating cuts to the expanded Medicaid program. Under Graham-Cassidy, the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion would end altogether by 2027, throwing millions of people off their coverage.
- Cap funding for the traditional Medicaid program, which provides vital care to seniors, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.
- Cut funding for the financial assistance that helps people purchase insurance through the Affordable Care Act's insurance marketplaces.
- Allow states to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions and to end the requirements that insurers cover a set of essential health benefits like oral health services, prescription drugs, maternity care, and mental health care.

--  
Kathy O'Meara-Wyman  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Alicia Quintero [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

Dear Senators,

I strongly urge you to vote no on the the Graham Cassidy Bill.

My child, Michael is 10 years old and has a pre-existing condition. When he was 18 months he was diagnosed with a brain tumor. I was that careful parent, that didn't do anything wrong during my pregnancy, didn't even take any tylenol. I breast fed him for almost 13 months. I did everything I could to give him a good start to life.

He was diagnosed when my husband was college. Medicaid paid for his surgery and his chemotherapy, medicaid kept him alive. I am terrified he will loose his medicaid coverage. My husband has medical coverage, but if insurance doesn't have to cover pre exisiting conditions where can I turn, what else can I do to help my child.

Please vote no on the Graham Cassidy Bill.

There has to be a better way than taking coverage away from our most vulnerable citizens.

Sincerely,

Alicia Quintero  
Cincinnati Ohio

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Helen Li [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 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.

Helen,  
Vienna, VA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** andy andykopsa.com [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE Graham Cassidy

**Senate Finance Committee,**

This is my friend Emily, she is 14 — she needs her healthcare to live.

<http://www.cosmopolitan.com/politics/a10364729/emily-koesters-medicaid-obamacare-repeal/>

This is me: I have MS, I will lose coverage because you will price it out of reach. My husband already drained his retirement account pre-ACA for my care.

**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.**

**Andy Kopsa**

NY, NY — Native Iowan, progressive democrat, mother, wife, worker, voter.

**Andy Kopsa**  
[REDACTED]

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

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**From:** susan meltsner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:47 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please explore partisan punishment and sweetheart deals incorporated in the Graham Cassidy Health Care Bill

Good morning,

I want to thank the committee for opening phone lines and email to comments on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care bill. Like many, many others I have phoned in so that my call could be added to the totals of voters for or against the passage of this bill.

As I understand it, the Senate Finance Committee hearing is the only one being held on GCH. And if I understand the purpose/ focus of the Senate Finance Committee correctly, human costs are not of particular interest. So, I won't go there. (I am sure many others already have.)

Instead I would like to ask the following:

Could Senator Cassidy, who is scheduled to appear before the committee that he is a part of and that includes several other co-sponsors of the bill in question, be asked to explain the system of punishments and buy-offs upon which the bill's funding appears to be based?

Can he be asked to confirm or deny that the distribution of funds to individual states was determined by their political leaning (Democrat or Republican) and if he denies, to state truthfully for the record that the current breakdown in which states losing funds are overwhelming "Blue" and those gaining are overwhelmingly "Red" is entirely coincidental?

Similarly, could he be asked to comment on recent changes made to the bill which give special treatment, including increased funding and other state-specific concessions, to Maine, Alaska and Kentucky, whose senators - not coincidentally - have said that they will not vote for the bill or are leaning towards a "no" vote. Can he confirm or deny that these concessions exist and that the states named are the ones for whom those concessions were created?

Would other states be able to get similar concessions if they indicated that they might vote "no"? - West Virginia could use help with their very large medicaid population, for example, and Ohio has that well-documented opioid problem.

Could Democrats offer to vote yes in exchange for similar or better deals for their states and get them added to the bill?

These machinations are simply added to an already existing pile of tactics, including insisting that Senators vote without seeing a CBO score, putting an un-reviewed version of the bill up for the vote when the time comes, openly admitting that politics supercede substance and so on. Is there anything that the bill's authors and sponsors and the Mr. McConnell would not do to get 51 'yes' votes for the bill? And is this okay with the members of the respected Committee on Finance?

Thinking no one will actually read this, I did not attempt to keep it brief. For anyone who might take the time to wade through it then, I apologize for the length.

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

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**From:** Manik Chhabra [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Senate Hearing Regarding the Impact of Graham-Cassidy Legislation

To Whom It May Concern,

As a primary care physician in Philadelphia, Medicaid expansion through the ACA has provided a lifeline to my most vulnerable patients. Many of the patients I serve are undergoing treatment for opioid use disorder, and are dependent on the insurance coverage they have to continue to receive services.

Any effort to make insurance coverage less available, reduce benefits, or cut Medicaid, will keep hundreds of thousands of American from receiving lifesaving treatment for substance use disorder. This means more needless emergency room visits, more hospitalizations, more babies born addicted to the opiates their mothers used during pregnancy.

I am writing today to urge you to vote against Graham-Cassidy, and the harmful effects it will have on my patients.

To that end, I have also worked to collect physicians statements from across the country on the impact that Medicaid has had for their patients, and what cuts would mean to some of our most vulnerable family members, neighbors, friends, and colleagues. I've attached those below.

Feel free to contact me with any questions at [REDACTED]

Thank you,

Manik Chhabra, MD

### **Alaska**

"The number of uninsured and/or underinsured people in this country is already at a ridiculous high..."—Devery Mitchell, MD, Family Medicine, Anchorage, AK

"This bill will reduce the safety net for poor and mentally ill people..."—Tom Hunt, MD, Family Medicine, Anchorage, AK

"I think it will negatively impact our seniors."—Jacquelyn Serrano, MD, Family Medicine, Anchorage, AK

### **Arizona**

"Medicaid supported two young parents when their little girl was diagnosed with Tay Sachs, a fatal genetic disease. Medicaid provided essential services and therapies that allowed her parents to provide the best possible end of life for their child."—Susan Dalby, MD, Pediatrics, Portal, AZ

### **Arkansas**

"The bill is not only about repealing and replacing, it's about repealing and regressing..."—Riley Lipschitz, MD, Primary Care, Little Rock, AR

## **California**

"Cuts to Medicaid funded prenatal care harms mothers and their unborn children..."—Jane van Dis, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Bakersfield, California

"Millions of California's children rely on Medicaid for their healthcare... [https://youtu.be/F6RhF3Z\\_8hE](https://youtu.be/F6RhF3Z_8hE). Our future depends on it."—Jaime Friedman, MD, Pediatrics, San Diego, CA.

"I cannot do my part if you limit access to preventative health care services"—Lourdes Bahamonde, DO, Gastroenterology, Los Angeles, CA

"It's been like a miracle to me to watch the hope in my patients' eyes when they realize they have access to tools to stay healthy, to be able to continue to work and take care of themselves with dignity, since the expansion of Medicaid."—Jennifer Hone, MD, Endocrinology, Santa Barbara, CA

"Medicaid provided [my patients] access to medically necessary testing and treatment to safely transition to [their] identified gender."—Kristen Vieregger, MD, Endocrinology, Buena Park, CA

"With Medicaid my patients are able to be healthier, function as productive members of society—keep jobs, be parents, maintain their homes."—Jessica Fielden, MD, Family Medicine, Oakland, CA

"Medicaid encourages my patients to come in for evaluation and treatment before their problems get much worse. It gets them in the door they wouldn't otherwise enter, getting them needed medical attention, helping to stay functional in society."—Robert Sullivan, MD, Family Medicine, Sacramento, CA

"Medicaid provides insulin to my diabetic patients, seizure medications to my epileptic patients, prenatal care to my pregnant patients, access to specialists for my pediatric and adults patients with life threatening diseases and so much more. It provides hope and dignity for people that could not otherwise afford health care."—Kambria Beck Holder, MD, Primary Care, Santa Rosa, CA

## **Colorado**

"I'm going to see patients present later, sicker, and with less ability to get follow up care."—Matthew Zuckerman, MD, Emergency Medicine, Denver, CO

"Health insurance without essential benefits is like a car without brakes or a busted parachute..."—Eiko Browning, MD, Hematology-Oncology, Highlands Ranch, CO

"The ACA / Medicaid has allowed me to provide thorough developmental screenings to my youngest patients, and several have been found to need further evaluation, care and therapy. This is just one example of the multitude of ways Medicaid has provided health care to some of our most vulnerable citizens and literally changed their lives."—Lori Smith, MD, Pediatrics, Frederick, CO

## **Connecticut**

"Through Medicaid expansion... millions of Americans were able to realize addiction treatment ..."—Jeanette Tetrault, MD, Primary Care and Addiction Medicine, New Haven, CT



"Medicaid serves my patients who are most in need of health care. Without it, my patients with diabetes or hypertension would not see a doctor until they were gravely ill. We depend on Medicaid and cannot see it sacrificed for political benefit."—Matthew Meizlish, MD/PhD candidate, New Haven, CT

"People without insurance, especially those with low incomes, tend to avoid preventative health care, which if ignored, can lead to major illnesses, that not only affects the individual, but affects the amount of money this country spends on health care... But without insurance, individuals may avoid this preventative care. I've witnessed this first hand. For this reason and many more, it is vital that Medicaid expansion is not rolled back."—Ross Kristal, MD, Internal Medicine, New Haven, CT

"I continually feel a sense of relief when I see that my patient has Medicaid (as opposed to a private insurance) because of the options I have with labs and imaging as well as the coverage and minimal copay of the formulary."—Patrick Kelly, MD, Primary Care, New Haven, CT

"When my patient's husband tragically passed away suddenly she lost her insurance. After years of hard work financially disqualifying her for Medicaid, she was eligible through the ACA. Our first visit we ordered the mammogram that detected her breast cancer at an early stage. Medicaid saved her life, her son's only parent, and the health care system expensive advanced cancer treatment."—Sarita Soares, MD, Primary Care, New Haven, CT

### **Florida**

"Children will suffer; I have no doubt about that."—Arielle Hay, MD, Pediatric Rheumatologist, Miami, FL

"Medicaid enables children with complex medical conditions to get the care they need, when they need it, from experts who provide the best care to the child. Reducing Medicaid would make American's children sicker."—Zach Spoer-Labutta, MD, Pediatrics, St. Petersburg, FL

"Millions of families ... will find that their elderly loved ones or disabled loved ones are no longer eligible for long term care beds."—Paul Robinson, MD, Emergency Medicine & Pediatrics, Tarpon Springs, FL

### **Georgia**

"It was written in secret, by the wealthy for the wealthy, and will kill Americans. It's that simple."—Adam Friedlander, MD, Adult and Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Atlanta, GA

### **Illinois**

"I don't think sexual assault should be considered a pre-existing condition."—Laura Craig, MD, Psychiatry, Chicago, IL

"Repealing the ACA is a dangerous idea..."—Mara Divis, DO, Family Medicine, Chicago, IL

"This bill hurts those that need us the most: the disabled, children, the poor, and the chronically ill."—Vineet Arora, MD, Internal Medicine, Chicago, IL

"Medicaid improves my patients' lives. For some, such as my difficult to treat diabetic and hypothyroid patients, it is life saving."—Alex Neuman, DO, Primary Care, Oak Park, IL

"Medicaid matters to my patients because it allows them to get better treatment for their neurological diseases, without having to undergo expensive hospitalizations and tests."—Scott Lipson, MD, Neurology, Chicago, IL

### ***Indiana***

"Where will my patients go if their care is not covered?"—Katherine W. McHugh, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Indianapolis, IN

### ***Iowa***

"Mental health is already in crisis in Iowa, and the health care bill will allow states to remove mental health as a required benefit. That's outrageous and is only going to make the problem worse!"—Hans House, MD, Emergency Medicine, Iowa City, IA

### ***Maine***

"Cutting the infirmed and poor from Medicaid is cruel, not healthcare..."—Cathleen London, MD, Family Medicine, Milbridge, ME

"I work in rural Maine where people are poor and sick and dependent on Medicaid for care."—Jennifer Lipka, DO, Hospitalist, Ellsworth, ME

"It will take people already working so hard and make them feel tossed aside by those with power—no care, no help, no hope."—Bethany Picker, MD, Family Medicine, Lewiston, ME

### ***Maryland***

"If it weren't for Medicaid my patients would not be able to breathe. Insurance allows them to take the medications that treat everything from asthma to pulmonary hypertension."—Trishul Siddharthan, MD, Pulmonary Critical Care, Baltimore, MD

### ***Massachusetts***

"The Senate health care bill does nothing to promote psychiatric or substance abuse treatment."—Jim Recht, MD, Psychiatry, Substance Use Disorders, Boston, MA

"Millions of Americans will lose their health insurance..."—Elissa Perkins, MD, Emergency Medicine, Boston, MA

"My adolescent female patients ... likely will no longer have access to affordable, reliable contraception..."—Kathryn Brigham, MD, Adolescent Medicine, Boston, MA

"As an emergency physician I know that when people don't have access to basic necessities like maintenance medications for diabetes, asthma, and high blood pressure, they will present to me with life threatening conditions..."—Elizabeth Mitchell, MD, Emergency Medicine, Boston, MA

"Patients will not be able to get their screening mammography without insurance."—Samantha Harrington, MD, Radiology, Cambridge, MA

"Medicaid matters because our society should protect its most vulnerable. Children, the elderly and disabled should not go without necessary healthcare!"—Lachelle Weeks, MD, Internal Medicine, Boston, MA

### **Minnesota**

"Thousands of children and families would lose access to well child checks..."—Nathan Chomilo, MD, Pediatrics, Minneapolis, MN

"I don't think we should ever go backwards, especially with the progress we've made in <https://youtu.be/CZ0UdWe-9k>..."—Nusheen Ameenuddin, MD MPH, Pediatrics, Rochester, MN

"Imagine my patient was your child—and then tell me why they should have their insurance taken away from them."—Kacia Lee, MD, Primary Care, Minneapolis, MN

"Cuts to Medicaid and block grants will cut the care to my most vulnerable patients... In order to grow healthy families and communities, people need access to primary care providers"—Andrea Westby, MD, Family Medicine, Minneapolis, MN

"With Medicaid cuts, our social workers would have an even harder time finding facilities to care for our nation's Veterans who need long-term care. *Short-changing care for Veterans just to provide tax-cuts is unconscionable.*"—Dimitri Drekonja, MD, Infectious Disease, Minneapolis, MN

"The majority of my pediatric patients are on Medicaid. We are currently experiencing a measles outbreak in our state, and if my patients lose their insurance, they lose access to immunizations."—Meg Kersey-Isaacson, MD, Infectious Disease, St. Paul, MN

### **New Jersey**

"This bill is going to result in many lives in ruin. This keeps me up at night."—Jennifer H. Chuang, MD, MS, Adolescent Medicine, Moorestown, NJ

### **New York**

"My patients may not be covered for mammography, and breast cancers will be missed. People will die from this..."—Gennifer Geller, MD, Radiology, Rye, NY

"Essential health benefits are critical to actually covering people in emergencies..."—Dara Kass, MD, Emergency Medicine, New York, NY

"I work with survivors of human trafficking who rely on Medicaid..." Anita Ravi, MD, Family Medicine, New York, NY

"Medicaid means my patients with opioid use disorder can get effective, life-saving treatment."—Aaron Fox, MD Primary Care, Addiction Medicine, Bronx, NY

"I'm concerned about a patient I have who I diagnosed yesterday with an abdominal cancer..." Barbara Porter, MD, Primary Care, New York, NY

"I am a hospice and palliative care physician. Medicaid allows many of my patients to have the highest quality medical care..."—Jeffrey Allen, MD, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Rochester, NY

"My patients will come in sicker, with the possible lethal sequela of treatable/preventable diseases..."—Renita Kundu, MD, Emergency Medicine, New York, NY

"Medicaid means being confident you can have a medical problem evaluated and treated. Without it, patients wait and wait, until what was a small problem becomes much bigger, much more difficult for the patient—and much more expensive for all of us."—Wesley Clark, MD, Anesthesiologist, Brooklyn, NY

"Medicaid gives you dignity and hope when you are most vulnerable. It is your safety net and knowing it's there helps assure your American sense of freedom..."—Victoria Gorski, MD, Primary Care, Bronx, NY

"You persevered through trauma and worked so hard to bring your son into this world. You made sure that he has the support he needs to thrive. Because of Medicaid, I was able to be a part of your journey."—Mariya Masyukova, MD, Primary Care, Bronx, NY

"As an internist caring for adults with developmental disabilities, every single one of my patients is dependent on the Medicaid expansion that is part of the ACA in NY State. Losing that will be devastating..."—Galit Sacaiju, MD, Internal Medicine, New York, NY

"Without Medicaid, my patients will suffer at the hands of diseases that can be managed and treated, economic burdens that can be avoided..."—Sameen Farooq, MD, Primary Care, Bronx, NY

"I take care of a 24 year old type 1 diabetic patient who is dependent on insulin to survive... Pre-ACA Medicaid expansion, he was uninsured. He was hospitalized in intensive care units several times a year because he could not afford his insulin. Post-ACA, he now has Medicaid, is able to afford his insulin, has not been in the hospital since 2013."—Nicole Villapiano, MD, Primary Care, Cortland, NY

"Medicaid coverage is the only way our patients can get diagnostic tests, medications, and specialty care..."—Paul Kaye, MD, Primary Care Pediatrics, Peekskill, NY

"Patients with Cystic Fibrosis often depend on Medicaid for the amazing new medications that may add decades to their lives."—Allen Dozor, MD, Pediatrics, New York, NY

"Medicaid paid for the care of my grandmother with Alzheimer's."—William Jordan, MD, Family Medicine, Queens, NY

"Medicaid matters to my patients and my family. My brother who has a chronic illness finally qualified for Medicaid health care. He is terrified that it will be taken away from him and his illness will get worse."—Sandra Turner, MD, Psychiatrist, New York NY

### **North Carolina**

"There's no way we can accommodate the millions of additional uninsured patients who will find it unavailable to acquire insurance under the new bill..."—Gary Greenberg, MD, Internal Medicine, Raleigh, NC

### **Ohio**

"This bill will affect my patients' health: maternal and fetal deaths will rise."—Carmen Baxter, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Dayton, Ohio

"Every day [my patients] come in to me expressing their concerns about their new health care bill..."—Gregory Lam, MD, Cardiology, Circleville, OH

"Medicaid helps my parents and my grandparents get their medications each month. It gives them peace of mind that they can get an appointment with the finest hospital closest to home when they need to see a doctor."—Jacob Petrosky, MD, General Surgery, Cleveland, OH

"I treat patients with mental illness and addictions who have been released from jail and prison. Medicaid is the stabilizing factor for my patients in their time of transition and has helped them receive mental health and substance abuse treatment..."—Megan Testa, MD, Psychiatry, Shaker Heights, OH

"Medicaid takes care of the poorest among us."—Chantal Dothey, MD, Pediatrics, Cleveland, OH

### **Oregon**

"I worry every day about how this health care bill is going to impact my patients with chronic conditions. But I also worry about my daughter. She received a diagnosis of Marfan's syndrome when she was two days old... She's gonna have a lot of bills and probably a lot of surgeries."—Shana Kusin, MD, Emergency Medicine, Portland, OR

"I'm going to be worried about my most vulnerable patients..."—Domi Le, MD, Gastroenterology, Portland, OR

"I don't know how I'm going to do my job if Medicaid is cut and capped."—Smitha Chadaga, MD, Internal Medicine, Portland, OR

"One of our most important jobs is to listen to our patients. We hear and share your fears. We will stand up for you."—Josephine Livingston, MD, Emergency Medicine, Portland, OR

"My most vulnerable patients will suffer, become ill, require hospitalization more often, and may die..."—Bronwyn Baz, MD, Pediatrics, Portland, OR

"Medicaid saves lives, changes lives for the better, AND allows for upstream medicine to prevent high downstream costs."—Lisa Kipersztok, MD, Primary Care, Portland, OR

"Harming patients who rely on Medicaid rips the guts out of what it means to be a physician who cares..."—Michael Goldern, MD, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Portland, OR

"Most of my patients needed Medicaid and Medicare as their only available health insurance. These are vital programs for the poor..."—Laura Hanks, PA, Internal Medicine, Milawukie, OR

### **Pennsylvania**

"I don't want to see another patient who <https://youtu.be/H77YMyPYeaE> to preventive health screening, because they didn't have insurance..."—Ilene Wong, MD, Urology, West Chester, PA

"The Senate's health care bill ... turns back the clock on important women's health care gains over the years."—Adrienne Neithardt MD, Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Exton, PA

"Without Medicaid my patients don't have access to life-saving insulin, putting them at risk for immediate and long term risks."—Anna Morgan, MD MSc, Primary Care-Internal Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

"It will block access to needed care for so many of my patients and their families."—James Callahan, MD, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

"When the lost insurance from work or lost their job, Medicaid saved their supply of diabetes and heart medications. Those without it often came to the ED too late, too sick."—Krisda Chaiyachati, MD MPH, Primary Care-Internal Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

"Without Medicaid my patients would never know what it means to be cured for Hepatitis C. Getting that insurance meant getting tested, getting treated, and getting cured."—Navin Vij, MD, Internal Medicine-Pediatrics, Philadelphia, PA

"Many of the patients that we see with special health-care needs including autism and other developmental disabilities would be unable to access care without the insurance coverage provided by Medicaid for them..."—Hillary Kruger, MD, Developmental Pediatrician, Philadelphia, PA

"Medicaid helps my medically fragile patients have full and active lives. From allowing a child on a ventilator to attend school, to allowing children born premature to make it to the staggering number of specialists they have to see, without Medicaid none of this would be possible..."—Nicole Jaffe, MD, Developmental Pediatrician, Philadelphia, PA

"Yesterday a family came to me in tears; their 2 year-old son with Down Syndrome is finally in good health, now making good progress with intensive developmental therapies, and is able to communicate with them through basic sign language... I fear for his future without Medicaid..."—Sandhyaa Iyengar, MD, Developmental Pediatrician, Philadelphia, PA

"Medicaid means your grandmother can stay in the senior home where she gets nursing, physical and occupational therapy and companionship, instead of going to a place where she is ignored and gets bedsores."—Kristina Nivus, MD, Primary Care, Dallastown, PA

"As a primary care pediatrician, Medicaid enables me to give my patients life-saving vaccines, monitor their growth and development, and take care of them when they are ill."—Stacey Kallem, MD, Pediatrics, Philadelphia, PA

"Medicaid allows my patients to start dialysis in the safest and most cost effective way."—John Prior, DO, Nephrology, Waverly Township, PA

"Without Medicaid they could no longer be my patients, thanks to our overpriced yet underperforming American healthcare system."—Dwight Eichelberger, MD, Internal Medicine-Nephrology, Elizabethtown, PA

"All kinds of patients in my practice are on Medicaid, and the most vulnerable patients are the ones most likely to be on it. They need to have access to primary care so they can stay out of our emergency rooms, work to feed their families and have quality of life."—Katherine Margo, MD, Family Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

"Without Medicaid my patients and their parents cannot receive the crucial preventative and medical care necessary to flourish in their lives."—Sanjiv Mehta, MD, Pediatrics, Philadelphia, PA

"Medicaid allows my low income patients to keep their diabetes under control..."— Heather Mackey-Fowler, MD, Primary Care, South Kingstown, RI

### **Tennessee**

"My patients are not only concerned about their diagnosis, but also about being able to afford insurance when their treatment is over..."—Dana Cardin, MD, MSCI, Medical Oncologist, Nashville, TN

### **Texas**

"It's poised to hurt our most vulnerable population: our children."—Terri Major-Kincaide, MD, Neonatology, Dallas, TX

"Medicaid has provided many of my patients with liver transplants, treatment of hepatitis C, and many other liver problems who would simply have had virtually no access to care for these problems without it."—Victor Ostrower, MD, Hepatology, San Antonio, TX

"Medicaid allows moms to be healthy during their pregnancy and babies to achieve their full potential."—Lisa Glenn, MD, Family Medicine, Austin, TX

"This ends up harming our fellow Americans while costing the healthcare system much more money. On average, it costs 3x as much to treat serious conditions than to prevent them..."—Ron Levin, MD, Family Medicine, Austin, TX

"Without Medicaid, many of my patients would not be able to access preventative care and would wind up with much more serious illnesses that cost taxpayers in the millions for a single patient's care..."—Christie Shanafelt, MD, Family Medicine, Richardson, TX

### **Utah**

"Americans deserve healthy families."—Cara Heuser, MD MPH, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Salt Lake City, UT

### **Virginia**

"Our state won't give you Medicaid, so you take a whole day off of work, travel 2.5 hours to my free clinic to treat your diabetes, and panhandle for gas money for the ride home."—Megan Lemay, MD, Primary Care-Internal Medicine, Richmond, VA

### **Washington**

"There is no way for [children] to stay out of harms way with this bill." Faith Galderisi, DO, Seattle, Pediatric Oncology, WA

"I care for sick kids every day who rely on Medicaid for coverage."—Elizabeth Meade, MD, Pediatrics, Seattle, WA

"Taking health insurance away from 20-plus million Americans will not make people healthier."—Steven Pergam, MD, Infectious Disease, Seattle, WA

"I'm a doctor with over 30 years of primary care practice. Medicaid level patients without insurance are sicker and MUCH more expensive than those who are insured. Medicaid is economic and humane."

—Lena Makaroun, MD, Geriatrician, Seattle, WA

"Medicaid allows my medically fragile young patients to attend school with their nursing providers and engage with their peers and dedicated teachers."—Michael Tomkins, MD, Pediatrics, Tacoma, WA

"You had cervical cancer on your first pap test. Medicaid paid for your successful treatment and cure. Now you can continue to get care for diabetes and knee pain."—Jane Huntington, MD, Family Medicine, Seattle, WA

"Medicaid gave you access to care so that you could get early screening for breast cancer. Early detection helped save your life."—Nina Maisterra, MD, Primary Care, Seattle, WA

"I take care of poor, frail elderly patients. They have nowhere but Medicaid to turn to for needed long-term care expenses, and their families are already in caregiver burnout, trying to care for their own children as well as their parents. Cutting Medicaid would affect all three generations!"—Lisa Plymate, MD, Geriatrics, Seattle, WA

"I'm a doctor with over 30 years of primary care practice. Medicaid level patients without insurance are sicker and MUCH more expensive than those who are insured. Medicaid is economic and humane"—Kathleen Davis, MD, Primary Care, Seattle, WA

### ***West Virginia***

"I take care of people on the worst day of their lives. No one has advanced notice that they're going to have a brain tumor, a ruptured aneurysm, or a spinal cord injury ..."—Cara Sedney, MD, Neurosurgery, Morgantown, WV

### ***Wisconsin***

"This would have a profound impact on just about every one of my patients..." Jennifer Perkins, MD, Family Medicine, Madison, WI

"28% of adults <64 in WI have pre-existing conditions. Almost 1.2 million people in WI use public insurance in some form in WI. The healthcare of all of these people is at risk."—Amy Walsh, MD, Emergency Medicine, Madison, WI

"In Wisconsin many rural patients are Medicaid patients. These rural Wisconsinites will be deprived of health care because they do not have the resources to pay for health care out of pocket."—Bruce Krawisz, MD, Pathologist, Marshfield, WI

"Without Medicaid many of my older patients on fixed incomes with conditions like advanced Alzheimer's disease who have become incontinent and non ambulatory, whose families do not have the necessary resources, would not be able to be cared for and kept safe and clean in nursing homes."—Mark Chelmowski, MD, Internal Medicine, Bayside, WI



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Heather Little [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

I wasn't going to write to you because I'm fairly certain this won't get read, and if it does it won't change any minds; however, after reading the latest version, I feel compelled, so at least I will know that I did what I could to protect mine and my family's healthcare!

Unlike many letters you are probably receiving, I'm not writing about the huge cuts to Medicaid. To be honest, I don't know much about Medicaid, but if you were to tell me I pay for some of it with my tax money, I'm perfectly fine with that!

I am writing you as a (currently healthy) early retiree. My husband and I, along with many of our friends in our 50's and early 60's, have retired, or are about to, for various reasons...some of us so we could care for our sick, elderly parents, one to help care for a new-born grandchild, born with a condition that requires constant care at the moment, and a few others who were "forced" into early retirement by their companies where they have worked for nearly 40 years (so they can hire younger people at lower wages). Any idea how difficult it is for a "regular" person at this age who has worked for the same company to find another job that provides decent benefits?! Do you care?!?! Sooner or later, WE (that includes YOU!) will ALL have a pre-existing condition. It's my understanding that if any of you leave your current job, you will forever have access to comprehensive, affordable insurance. Why can't I?! You are no better or more important than the rest of us. As I stated, I am currently healthy, but I know how quickly that can change. My husband is a prostate cancer survivor, my best friend a breast cancer survivor, another has a heart condition controlled by medication. I cannot believe that you think people like us don't deserve health insurance. We take care of ourselves, eat right, exercise daily, contribute to our communities by volunteering our time and donating our money. We have never been uninsured a day in our lives, having paid for it either through our jobs, or more recently through the ACA. The insurance companies have already made a killing off of us, and now that we're aging and will need it the most, we can't have it?! I am so angry at the behavior from all sides!! Please, PLEASE work together and IMPROVE our current healthcare system. I don't care what you call it or which party gets the credit! This is far more important than scoring a political win for either party, and as civil servants, you all SHOULD be more concerned with the well-being of your constituents rather than your wealthy donors!

I have read the revised bill, and can see right through it. No doubt there may be cheaper plans available depending on which state one is in, because no doubt some (many??) states will roll back protections for pre-existing conditions. You're not helping or fooling us by offering scaled-back plans that won't cover us if/when we get sick. In fact, I won't bother purchasing such a plan! We canNOT afford to go backwards...back to the day when people reached their annual or lifetime caps in the middle of their life-saving treatments...back to the day when people had to leave their jobs and hence lost their insurance to seek treatments...back to the day when people had to sell their homes and move in with their parents or children or grandchildren to afford life-saving treatments...back to the day when businesses also offered skimpy plans or no plans...back to the day when if you lost your job you were stuck without insurance or stuck paying for COBRA with no income...back to the day when a pregnant woman didn't seek care for her pregnancy when she was between jobs and her pregnancy would be considered a pre-existing condition! I presume (I hope!) none of you are too far removed from us "regular" people (who pay your salaries and part of your insurance), to not understand.

It's ridiculous that in this day and age, that in THIS country, we have to beg for fair treatment and fair protections. If the rest of us (with different backgrounds, races, income, political affiliations) can find common ground in our everyday lives to work together, play together, volunteer together, than I would hope you can too! PLEASE, work together, help us, help you, set an example, be leaders. The American citizens and the rest of the world is watching!

Thank you,  
Heather Little-Brown  
(a Lindsey Graham constituent)

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** kathy walker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** please vote against Graham-Cassidy

Please vote against the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare repeal bill.

I am ashamed to live in a country-- a great, powerful country, the richest nation in the world-- that would consider depriving its citizens of the access to healthcare provided by the Affordable Care Act.

My mother worked hard her whole life. She raised my brother and I, and was the choir director and organist at our church, and worked as a substitute teacher. For the last fifteen years of her life, her health failed. She had high blood pressure, arthritis, glaucoma, and finally, dementia. She spent all her savings trying to pay for health insurance and prescriptions before she was eligible for Medicare, because it was hard to find a company to cover her pre-existing conditions that didn't charge much more than she earned as a substitute teacher. If the Affordable care Act had been in place back then, she would have had access to better coverage at a reasonable price. It was heart-breaking to see how desperate she felt about all the doctors' bills. It was hard to cover her health care bills even after she moved in with my brother. She eventually needed so much round-the-clock care that we moved her into a healthcare facility. We were lucky to find a facility with a caring and capable staff, and we were lucky that she could receive the Medicare and Medicaid that gave her access to this care. She died in 2014. If you pass Graham-Cassidy, you are passing a death sentence on citizens like my mother.

Katherine Walker  
Richmond. VA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ann Schumacher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please! A bipartisan correction of ACA

Please, we need to have a bipartisan team to update and correct ACA. I know that ACA has problems but can everyone be more mature and work together. Trying only to repeal the ACA is inappropriate and very childish! I want to see some adult behavior in the Congress!

Thank you. Ann Schumacher

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** reality [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:51 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Replacement Comment for Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson  
**Attachments:** 2017-09-23 Senate Finance Committee.doc

To the Senate Finance Committee,

In my first submission, I had a paragraph out of order and would like this submission to replace the last one.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Thomas E. Carpenter Jr.

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2017-09-23

Thomas E. Carpenter Jr. Ph.D  
[REDACTED]  
Louisville, KY 40217

Dear Senator Hatch and Senate Finance Committee,

I have two numbers for you and your committee to mull over: \$8.14 and \$4.95. These are values that potential Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson (GCHJ) supporters can use as valuation for premature deaths due to loss of insurance. Details to follow.

But first, before I get to the simple explanation and calculation of \$8.14 and \$4.95, I want to state clearly that I do not want my country to be one whose government is intentionally deaf to its public, is dismissive of the experience and knowledge of its experts, is contemptuous of the studious and academic, that is glib, cavalier, and careless with the lives of its citizens, that does not want to work cooperatively to make conditions better for its citizens, is insouciant and unconcerned with the vulnerable, that couldn't care less if it has subjected 10's of millions to constant anxiety over its financial and health futures, that is oblivious to its own terroristic actions on its own citizens, and that is officiously attentive and concerned only or primarily with those who've managed, justifiably or not, to scarf up most of the wealth for themselves.

But if I look at what has occurred and is occurring in my country, and specifically what is occurring in the U.S. Senate at the very moment and in the Finance Committee hearing on Mon., 9/25/17, I have to conclude that my country is exactly that sort of country. Currently we have before us something – GCHJ – that is widely and deservedly despised by the American public. A recent poll showing only 24% support. It has 0% support among organizations that are knowledgeable of any of the many facets of the health care industry. Let me repeat: 0% organizational and institutional support. No provider group (doctors, nurses, hospitals, ...) supports it. No patient group supports it. No insurance group or company supports it. ... Indeed, organizations have come together to make joint statements that no lawmaker should be unaware of (<https://www.ahip.org/content/uploads/2017/09/Joint-statement-AMA-AAFP-AHA-FAH-AHIP-BCBSA-9.23.17.pdf>). There are many others. For example: the American Academy of Actuaries ([http://www.actuary.org/files/publications/GCHJ\\_092217.pdf](http://www.actuary.org/files/publications/GCHJ_092217.pdf)), the bipartisan Medicaid Directors statement ([http://medicaiddirectors.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/NAMD-Statement-on-Graham-Cassidy9\\_21\\_17.pdf](http://medicaiddirectors.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/NAMD-Statement-on-Graham-Cassidy9_21_17.pdf)), as well as statements from scores of individual organizations too numerous to list lest they be lost. On its merits, GCHJ can not be justified. This is clear. It is intentional destruction and represents untold misery a

anxiety for 10's of millions. And yet it is still under consideration. It violates every one of the conditions I listed in the previous paragraph that is unacceptable in the United States in America. And America deserves much better than the protagonists of this episode are giving it.

Many of the experts who have looked at the GCHJ bill have called it "catastrophic." And catastrophic destruction of the American health care system is what Americans are now being asked to be considered responsible government. We'll get to \$8.14 and \$4.95 shortly.

Clearly, for legislation that affects every American's life, tens of millions directly, and upwards of 1/6 of the economy – as legislation that affects health care does, -- the public deserves as careful an analysis as can be provided and adequate time to digest the results. The public is therefore justly deserving of the most complete CBO scoring possible with regard to coverage, cost, and changes to the economy. It deserves time to reflect on that analysis. Of course a "hearing" of a couple of hours held several days before a vote, as the Mon., 9/25/17 session by Senator Hatch is giving that 1) provides no time for wide-ranging stakeholder testimony, 2) includes the bill's authors as primary witnesses, and 3) will tend to no amendments, does not satisfy those requirements. It is a bad-faith stunt. It is another insult to the public and it's an insult to the spirit of America. So I ask that all Senators vote 'no' on GCHJ for this fact alone: that the Senate is ignoring a serious, good-faith effort at regular order and instead attempting to replace it with a sham. It is doing all this while refusing to provide the public with information they deserve to allow them to judge what the legislation does to them, theirs, their futures, their children's futures, and their economy. Few are fooled about why this is happening. The bill's authors and supporters know exactly how awful this bill is for Americans and America. That these authors and supporters are then willing to foist it upon the country is testament to their motivations and, in no uncertain terms, tell us who they do and do not stand for and with. We're on the verge of \$8.14 and \$4.95.

There should be no consideration of changes to the health care system that results in lower coverage and higher costs, that raises premiums and deductibles on the private market (individual and employer), that further harms rural communities, that decreases employment in the health sector, and even collapses private exchange insurance markets. GCHJ, as its predecessors, does each of those, and most depressingly, it treats America's most vulnerable with contempt, disdain and cruelty. It does not attempt to make America better or its people better off; it sets out to do the opposite. This is not what a great nation does; it is what a sick nation with authoritarian leaders who discount public opinion and public will does. The American health care system needs improvement in outcomes for people, not intentional, unnecessary degradation that costs even more and covers even less. Americans and America deserve better.

Among the items being demanded by GOP donors are the dismantling of the ACA and Medicaid. (It has been noted by many that there is no specific funding after 10 years.) These demands on the American health care system will lead to 10's of millions of fewer Americans with health insurance and that will in turn lead to 10's of thousands of premature deaths each year. And there are legitimate estimates of what those numbers of uninsured and premature deaths will be.

We all know why this is happening. Because of the extreme unpopularity of GCHJ and the destruction it will bring, it is clear any politician could easily argue for a vote against it and dedicate him or her self to making the current system better. Said politician would be rewarded in public opinion if he or she so desired. So let's be clear: GCHJ wouldn't be before the court if it were not for concern about campaign contributions from a few big GOP donors or groups and their insistence that Republicans impose their dark vision on the country. It is not about freedom for people; it is about freedom for the few to exploit the many and to erode the many's political power in matters of their own economy and political life. That's why this is happening.

So back to those numbers noted in the first sentence..., what do they represent?

I would like to provide potential supporters of GCHJ with a dollar value that they themselves are assuming, wittingly or unwittingly, for each life that would be lost (in the first 10 years) if those health care policies are adopted. That is, what in dollar amounts each GCHJ supporter is receiving from donors for each premature death the donor policy results in in the first 10 years of implementation. I hope that it is helpful to the potential GCHJ supporter as one would think he/she would be interested in the monetary value his/her donor is providing for his/her vote (and his/her morality).

The most widely reported value donors are ready to devote to the 2018 elections is a figure upwards to \$400,000,000. So, what the \$8.14 (or \$4.95) figures represent are what each member voting to approve the GCHJ would get for each premature death in years 1-10 after GCHJ as a cut from their donors' \$400,000,000. That is, it is a valuation, a

(maximum) value, a GCHJ supporter is implicitly giving to the life lost by premature death because of loss of insurance caused by GCHJ. (Of course, the actual value would be less if other things the donors are getting policy-wise were to be included in the calculation.) But I'll be as generous as possible (make the figure large as possible) and will assume the vote is for the highest amount that has been published that I am aware of (\$400,000,000) and only includes premature deaths due to lack of insurance due to GCHJ. The first number -- \$8.14 -- is calculated assuming the most conservative number of premature deaths, and the second number -- \$4.95 -- is calculated using a (more likely) average over years 1-10 (assuming a linear increase of uninsured from 15 million in year 1 to 32 million in year 10.)

The Calculation:

Donor total: \$400,000,000

Votes required to pass: 51 (Senate) + 218 (House) + 1 (President) = 270

Premature deaths: 18,200 in the first year, 41,600 in year 10

(Those numbers are from: <http://annals.org/aim/article/2635326/relationship-health-insurance-mortality-lack-insurance-deadly> and <https://twitter.com/ShadowingTrump/status/909904546201260032> ) (For perspective, America had ~58,700 premature deaths from the Vietnam War over approximately 20 years or about 3000 per year. GCHJ would kill American citizens at a much greater rate and would be an intentional act of its own government.)

- Assuming, very conservatively, 18,200 deaths for each year, total premature deaths = 182,000

$\$8.14 = (400,000,000 / 182,000) / 270 =$  (maximum) value a GCHJ supporter is implicitly assigning to a life lost by premature death because of loss of insurance caused by GCHJ

- Assuming linear drop-off in coverage,

total no. of premature deaths =  $10 ( (18,200 + 41,600) / 2 ) = 299,000$

$\$4.95 = (400,000,000 / 299,000) / 270 =$  (maximum) value a GCHJ supporter is implicitly assigning to a life lost by premature death because of loss of insurance caused by GCHJ

Of course, as time goes on, the premature death toll rises and those numbers will tend to 0, but the moral weight upon the soul of the decision to support GCHJ rises. And, as mentioned earlier, these values are exaggerated because donors will certainly be demanding and getting more from GCHJ supporters than just the destructive health care policies. Thus, the figure used for the value of a life ended prematurely (in just the first 10 years) is certainly much less. I hope this helps to give perspective as to what donors are requiring for support and what 'yes' voters are giving in return.

Of course, it's probably going to be much, much worse than those estimates would suggest. Indeed, should each of 50 states have to re-design their health care systems in a few years, there's going to be multitudes of errors (and probably a lot of intentional sabotage and corruption) as connected actors vie for a piece of the pie in those state laboratories of democracy.

GCHJ is a shameful political act of violence upon the American people, upon America, upon our institutions, and upon basic decency. It has been advocated by its authors and supporters with blatant, transparent, intentional deceit. It has been shepherded through the Senate violating the Senate's own traditions for good-faith interaction. Good-faith is a necessary requirement of institutional actors in all institutions lest the institution loses legitimacy and actors lose trust for engaging each other. Every Senator should loudly and proudly reject the GCHJ bill. There is no justification for such a destructive piece of legislation on its merits alone, or for the shameful, un-American process in which it has traveled.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Carpenter Jr., Ph.D

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Daryl Wickstrom [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:58 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

My family completely relies at the moment on access to affordable healthcare that is not linked to employment, and which does not discriminate in any way against people with pre-existing conditions. Over the past few months, I have experienced a number of health issues, including continuing issues with a detached retina - a dangerous condition that can lead to blindness and certainly a "pre-existing condition". Being disqualified from coverage or having to pay enormous premiums to secure coverage is not an option. No doubt the Affordable Care Act has issues that need to be addressed, but stop the ridiculous political posturing that makes no one happy except for the politicians, and get to work on actually solving the problems. That is why you were elected - to solve problems. Repeal and Replace is a sad joke, particularly when there is no real "replace". America is not stupid, it is clear to all what is happening. Please govern instead of posturing to your base. This issue is too important to play politics.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Abigail Clarkson  
[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** oppose

Dear Senators,

Please strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill, and all other attempts to "repeal and replace" the ACA. My 14-year-old daughter experiences mental illness, and I have just had to leave my job so I can take care of her and supervise her schooling. Since I will no longer have insurance through my work, we will rely on the ACA for our healthcare coverage. If the ACA is dismantled, our already difficult situation will be made much, much worse.

Thank you,  
Abigail Clarkson  
Asheville, NC



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Andrew Yang [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Message for the Hearing on the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a fortunate American. I've been lucky enough to receive a world-class education, and now work at a fantastic job. Part of what makes that job fantastic is the superb health insurance we get. And I'm writing to you because it's important to me that as many Americans as possible have the piece of mind (both financial and health-wise) that comes with having good health insurance.

It is for this reason that I write to ask that you oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Both the substance of the bill and the process by which it is being passed are bad. The bill itself devolves far too much power to the states, including the ability for states to permit insurance plans to price based on pre-existing conditions and segregate high-risk individuals into their own pools (thereby defeating a large part of the point of insurance). Furthermore, the money given to the states, especially after 2026, is far too low to cover all Americans reasonably. Many of the states that win (at least in the short-term) in Graham-Cassidy could already receive more money by simply expanding Medicaid in their own states; no need for a new bill!

The process by which this bill is being passed could also be far improved. Democrats are asking for a bipartisan fix to the ACA, which for all its flaws, has insured tens of millions of previously uninsured Americans, offered common-sense protections to purchasers of insurance, and lowered the rate of health care cost growth. Instead, this bill is being jammed through the Senate with minimal hearings or public oversight. Why can't its defenders go to their home states and meet with constituents at town halls to explain why they think this bill is good for America, and start a dialogue? Why can't its defenders provide a substantive way for Democratic senators to have meaningful input on the content of the bill? Why is the bill - a bill which affects 1/6 of the national economy - being brought up for a vote without a complete CBO score? And why is the bill being hastily revised at the last minute (literally Sunday night - just a few days before it is to be brought to the floor for a vote) to offer sweeteners for certain states?

It is my belief that this bill will be a disaster for many of the Americans who need the protection of the government the most. Please understand that a large majority of Americans would prefer that the Senate work in a bipartisan way to incrementally fix the ACA instead of repealing and replacing it with a bill whose consequences have barely been analyzed.

Thank you for your time.

Andrew Yang

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Rachel Pemstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote no

Dear Senators,

I implore you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

Despite many of your colleagues' false assurances to the contrary, Graham Cassidy leaves those with pre-existing conditions dangerously vulnerable.

Its draconian cuts to Medicaid will leave our most vulnerable citizens - most notably our parents, grandparents and disabled loved ones - without the lifeline they so desperately need to be able to live and work in their communities, where they belong.

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.

Please, vote NO!

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elise Tosun [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any bill that would remove protections for people with pre-existing conditions and make healthcare unaffordable for them. My 2-year-old son was born with allergies to wheat, milk, eggs, and all nuts. This condition is viewed as "pre-existing" by insurance companies and without the ACA's protections for consumers, would allow insurance companies to charge my son unaffordable premiums for the rest of his life, which may prevent him from accessing insurance to pay for healthcare.

The ACA needs to be improved, not repealed. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Elise

Melrose, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jesse Price [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

I am a 64 year self employed man, currently uninsured for healthcare because the premium costs are prohibitive. My spouse and I are required to pay \$1,100 per month, for paltry health care options with large co-pays, and a large annual cash threshold of \$5,000. If we don't use any medical services, our cost is \$13,000, per year. If we do use healthcare our cost is \$18,000 per year. Thankfully, we are both very healthy to date, and haven't needed care. The clock is ticking and I anticipate we will not continue to be as lucky as we age further. We would appreciate it if our Government would produce healthcare insurance that is more affordable.

Jesse Price  
Stafford, VA

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** momsgarden265 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 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.

Annamarie Miller  
Delran, New Jersey

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lynn Trimby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 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. My sister had a pre-existing condition and for years she was unable to get insurance or had to pay exorbitant premiums. Thankfully now she is covered by Medicare and can get the care she needs. I would like to see a bipartisan Congress effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Lynn D. Trimby  
[REDACTED]  
Wayland, MA 01778

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Kate Yourke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposing Graham-Cassidy!

Greetings,

I am writing to vigorously oppose the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill on healthcare.

Leadership must protect and defend the well-being of its constituents. This bill does neither.

I OPPOSE the Graham-Cassidy bill!

Sincerely,  
Kate Yourke

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Allison Stark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 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 leaves the healthcare of millions of people in jeopardy. Every major medical and advocacy group opposes this bill. In a decade, our elderly population, children, and the number of people living with disabilities who rely on Medicaid and Medicare will only have increased, but this bill cuts off funding.

Sen. Cassidy has said this bill ensures protections remain in place for those with preexisting conditions, but his statements are disingenuous. States which choose the waiver process under the bill will be able to go back to using high risk pools as the option for coverage, which is prohibitively expensive for working class people.

Lifetime per capita caps will come back into play. I have three close friends whose children - now 2 and 5 years old and thriving - would have exceeded their lifetime limits by their first birthdays. These bright, vivacious boys come from dual-income, middle class families, but without the ACA, their parents would very likely be bankrupt by now.

Medicaid subsidies help fund vital supports for children with disabilities in our public schools. These schools are already cash-strapped. Without Medicaid subsidies, classroom behavioral supports for kids with autism and intellectual disabilities, as well as modified equipment for students with physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, would be in jeopardy.

My nine-year-old daughter has autism spectrum disorder. Through Medicaid, she began Early Intervention therapies when she was 2 1/2. When she turned 3, she was able to attend an autism preschool through the Capitol Area Intermediate Unit. Since entering kindergarten, she has received speech and occupational therapy in the autism support classroom in West Shore School District, as well as behavioral support through New Story and True North. She has gone from nonverbal and non-interactive to speaking in complete sentences and initiating conversations with her peers. I'm a single mother. None of this would have been possible without Medicaid.

A bipartisan committee needs to work out healthcare legislation that involves putting constituents' needs first, public hearings, input from stakeholders, and compromise from both political parties.

Allison Stark  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Laser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please Vote No

Dear Committee Members,

Three of the four members of our family have minor medical issues that would be considered pre-existing conditions under a changed health law. I am an adjunct professor; my wife is a freelance book publicist. Our combined income has allowed us to live modestly and raise two children... but paying for our own health insurance has always taken the biggest bite out of our income.

If insurance companies are allowed to charge more for members with pre-existing conditions, we will be forced to make some desperate choices.

Whatever the flaws in the current system, they are NOTHING compared with the misery you will create if you pass the Graham Cassidy bill. I can't imagine how anyone could vote for something that will benefit a few (most of whom are already doing quite well) and harm so many.

Please vote No!

Sincerely,  
Mike Laser  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Monika Mann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Please do not repeal the ACA which gives health care to so many in need.

Monika Mann  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Melissa Puius [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please oppose Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

This last-ditch effort to "repeal and replace" the ACA is an attempt to take away healthcare for millions of Americans and cut coverage for countless more.

Please do everything you can to stop this bill from proceeding, and if it makes it to the floor, please vote "no."

Respectfully,  
Cantor Melissa Puius  
Ardsley, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Emily L. Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose Graham-Cassidy Bill

I am writing today to voice my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Healthcare bill in any form.

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.

Moving money from states that expanded Medicaid under the ACA to those that did not is an unconscionable act of cruelty. All Americans should have access to high-quality healthcare, no matter where they live.

Allowing states to waive ACA requirements to cover pre-existing conditions — an extremely broad category — would be financially ruinous for many Americans and would ultimately hurt economic growth.

I ask that congress to work together to stabilize the ACA and repair parts of it in a bi-partisan manner. The country is depending on you to do so as we look forward to voting in 2018.

Sincerely,  
Emily L. Jones, EdD  
[REDACTED]  
Baltimore, MD 21230

(copied to Senators Cardin and Van Hollen and Representative Sarbanes)

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kristin Vonnegut [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:53 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband is a type one diabetic and we pay for our own health insurance. We are planning a move soon and are concerned that he will be unable to get health insurance if we move out of the coverage area for our current insurer. For this reason I oppose the Graham-Cassidy Act.

I know the ACA is not perfect, but I believe that Congress needs to work in a bipartisan fashion to improve upon it.

Sincerely,

Kristin Vonnegut

[REDACTED]  
Avon, MN 56310

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nadine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Reject Graham Cassidy Heller Bill in favor of bipartisan legislation

Dear Committee Members,

I urge you to REJECT Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bipartisan legislation 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 Americans -- children, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people with pre-existing conditions.

We are counting on you.

With deep appreciation,

Nadine Freeman

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kate Stack [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Statement

To whom it may concern,

Affordable, reliable health care is important to my family. Because of this, I completely oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. As a young woman in America, I need access to quality reproductive care, and this bill will not protect me or my body. The Affordable Care Act specifically protects the needs of women, and any replacement bill must do the same.

Sincerely,

Kate Stack, New York, NY

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Kate Stack

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hartung, Kent B [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA repeal

Please don't repeal the ACA. My 3 adult kids all have a genetic preexisting condition. They will be uninsurable. My wife was diagnosed with colon cancer this year. She will be uninsurable. I have high blood pressure and high cholesterol. I will be uninsurable. The list goes on and on in every family across America. This is NOT how to MAGA! Please vote NO on Graham-Cassidy bill. Then it is time to work across the aisle to improve the ACA for the benefit of all Americans.

Kent Hartung MD



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Judi Zirin-Hyman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

I am an attorney who has worked with persons with disabilities and their families, and the elderly, and the indigent, and I feel strongly that Graham Cassidy will result in catastrophic circumstances for many within the populations I have worked with and for. As well as, ultimately, for many other voters and constituents. I feel strongly that this is a bill that targets members of society least able to advocate for themselves, and as such is not only dangerous but flies in the face of so much of what this country is premised upon, challenging medical ethics and precepts of natural law that one would assume underly the integrity of legislation and the legislative process.

Frankly, I find the bill itself to be poorly constructed, easily manipulable and overtly cruel in its impact. And yes, I have read it and contemplated the many possibilities of its ultimate implementation. While "bullying" is a term that is ill-defined and has been bandied about a great deal recently, passage of this bill seems to me to be bullying the truly vulnerable, under any definition.

Surely there are better, bipartisan measures that can be taken to improve the ACA without resorting to these divisive tactics. I am looking forward to seeing all that you can accomplish when this process becomes less about politics and expedience and more about humanity, unity, and true patriotism.

Thank you,

Judith Zirin  
Demarest, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ed Hennemann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** VanHollen, Senator (Van Hollen)  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

I am writing to request that you please do not pass this piece of legislature. There is too much wrong with this bill and it will negatively affect too many people who don't have the means to take care of themselves.

Please work together in a bipartisan manner to create something that really does help your constituents. This is not that bill.

Thank you!

**Ed Hennemann**  
[REDACTED]  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Ruth Yung [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill comment

To whom it may concern,

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare and all people should have access to equal and affordable healthcare in America. Because of this, **I strongly oppose the mean-spirited Graham-Cassidy bill**. I have a pre-existing condition and know that every single component of this plan negates my ability to have affordable coverage.

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!

Sincerely,  
Ruth Yung  
Norwood, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kathleen King [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** MaryLee Allen; Alison Buist  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record for the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
**Attachments:** ChildrensDefenseFund Statement for the Record Graham Cassidy Proposal.pdf

Attached please find a statement for the record from the Children's Defense Fund for today's Senate Finance Committee hearing on the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal. We appreciate the opportunity to offer out comments.

Thank you,  
Kathleen

Kathleen E. King  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Heidi Breen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:52 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. Heidi Breen  
[REDACTED]  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34953  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jane Franklin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

Dear members of Congress,

My brother is diabetic and partially disabled. He relies on the Medicaid expansion so that he can work part time and access healthcare. His other choices would be to rely entirely on my retired parents for his medical costs or to attempt to go on disability - the one renders my parents vulnerable and the other is not the intended purpose of disability.

I would like to see the ACA expanded, not reduced or repealed. Because of my family, this is a single-issue voter consideration for me - I will not vote for anyone who compromises on the ACA, and I will donate to national organizations which campaign against anyone who votes it down.

Sincerely,  
Jane Franklin

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

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**From:** Sabrina Dunlap [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of the Systemic JIA Foundation, I am writing to express our strong opposition to the Cassidy-Graham-Heller-Johnson Amendment to H.R. 1628, the "American Health Care Act of 2017." This bill would be devastating for patients living with chronic illness, including thousands of children living with Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (SJIA), a severe autoinflammatory disease, which can be fatal. Children living with Systemic JIA account for the majority of the morbidity and mortality rates of all forms of juvenile arthritis, and their care is complicated and incredibly expensive. There is no cure, and the disease can only be managed through medication - if it is not managed, the result is long-term organ damage (including to heart and lungs), permanent disability, and death.

While the Graham-Cassidy bill is not a straight repeal of the Affordable Care Act, the fact that states could seek waivers for important protections would be a disaster for children living with SJIA. The ACA's prohibition on lifetime caps and annual limits is vital for our patient population - it is a matter of life and death. The medications used to treat our children tend to be orphan drugs, and they can be astronomically expensive. Without these drugs, our children would suffer and potentially die. The majority of families cannot afford the drugs needed to treat SJIA unless they have insurance coverage not subject to lifetime caps on spending, as most children with SJIA would exceed a cap of a million dollars within a year or two. This would be catastrophic for many families.

In addition, the protections in the ACA around pre-existing conditions are incredibly important for children with Systemic JIA. Under the Graham-Cassidy bill, insurance companies could once again discriminate against people with pre-existing conditions, charge higher premiums and rates, or place them into high-risk pools. One of the most concerning aspects of this bill is we would surely see the rise of high-risk pools once again, which we know do not work based on years of data from states with high-risk pools before the enactment of the ACA. High-risk pools defy the logic of health insurance, and they are not an answer for treating people with complex chronic diseases.

Many provisions of the Graham-Cassidy bill concern us, and we join the countless other medical groups speaking out against this proposal. We are a non-profit patient-centered group, with no political affiliation. We simply want to take care of our children, which is an impossibility without affordable health insurance, and without the protections of the ACA for people living with expensive chronic illnesses. These are children, living with a horrendous disease through no fault of their own. We hope the Senate will show integrity and mercy in either not bringing Graham-Cassidy to a vote, or in defeating it. We urge Senator McConnell to not bring this bill to a vote, and instead continue the bipartisan work on improving the ACA that was already happening before this bill was proposed. Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Dunlap  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Elspeth Hayden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Testimony opposing Graham-Cassidy

To Whom It May Concern:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare, and I therefore oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I recently had an adverse reaction to medication and was fortunate to receive immediate medical treatment, covered almost entirely by my health insurance. But my story is insignificant compared to the thousands of people out there who are fighting cancer, diabetes, and other severely life threatening conditions. They need quality, affordable healthcare just as much as the rest of us.

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

Thank you,  
Elspeth Hayden  
Bloomington, IN 47401



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sharona Halpern [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT REPEAL ACA

I am self employed, and purchasing health insurance independently is complex and stressful, and of course, already quite expensive. At least, the ACA has allowed me to receive the routine healthcare I need to stay healthy and thereby save healthcare dollars for the insurance companies and for myself.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Too many Americans have benefited from the ACA to repeal it now.

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

Sincerely,  
Sharona Halpern  
Newton, MA 02458

*Sharona Halpern MA LMHC*

[REDACTED]

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

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**From:** Amy Swygert [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** info@johnnyisakson.com  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

### STATEMENT FOR GRAHAM-CASSIDY HEARING

I am a two-time cancer survivor, have cardiac issues and both of my daughters require mental health care. We are good-hearted, hard working citizens — I was a non profit executive for almost two decades and my husband runs his own successful financial planning practice. Because the Affordable Care Act afforded us protections for my pre-existing conditions, I was able leave behind my employer-based health insurance to try my hand at running a small business while my husband continued to maintain his independent financial planning practice.

Guaranteed coverage for mental health care has meant that my daughters can thrive as normal teenagers instead of falling behind in school due to mental health issues. This is especially true of our older daughter, who fought and successfully overcame an eating disorder early in her high school career thanks to an excellent intensive therapy program and medication that we were able to afford thanks to our insurance. She is now doing well in school and happily applying to college thanks to ongoing medication that keeps her extreme anxiety under control.

Right now, due to the systematic undermining of the Affordable Care Act and refusal of my state of Georgia to expand Medicaid, my family and many other Georgians will have almost no choice for independent insurance. Immediate action is desperately needed, but Graham-Cassidy is NOT the answer.

There is no better investment in our society, our economy and our country than providing access to affordable health care. The Graham-Cassidy bill does absolutely nothing to improve health care access for Americans. It simply kicks the can down to the state level to make horrible decisions about what does and doesn't get covered while millions of Americans like me and my family stand lose a great deal in the process.

Please stop wasting your time on this damaging legislation. The average American does not care about a political promise to "repeal." They care about what Congress can deliver to their families. Americans overwhelmingly want a bipartisan solution to improve the Affordable Care Act.

Please stop using our health care as a political pawn. Instead, please pass bipartisan legislation to 1) shore up the current health care market (immediately), 2) provide a long-term sustainable system of health care akin to what other industrialized nations have that emphasizes quality vs. quantity of care, and 3) prevent drug and other medical companies from taking advantage of health care consumers.

In other words, stop the backroom partisan deals and do your jobs.

Thank you,

Amy Swygert  
[REDACTED]

Dunwoody, GA 30338

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Parmenter, Barbara M [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** deep concern about Graham-Cassidy bill and state capacity to respond effectively

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I have deep concerns about the Graham-Cassidy bill and the ability of states to effectively design and implement a health insurance system. While I appreciate the idea of giving states more leeway to design systems that match their residents' needs, this bill is not well thought-out and will more likely lead to chaos. This is even more likely given that many states will have funding reduced under the bill. These policies, as the Senate itself has seen, are extremely complex. The US Senate should not be passing a bill that has not been carefully designed with input from governors, health policy experts, and other stakeholders (insurers, hospitals, patient advocacy groups). The bill simply pushes all this to the states in a completely unrealistic timeframe and in many cases, less funding.

I urge you not to let this bill proceed, and instead to take a more considered approach when approaching such momentous changes to our health care system.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Parmenter, Ph.D.

Barbara M. Parmenter  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Allison Lange [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on Graham-Cassidy

To Whom it May Concern:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My father-in-law was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimers in his early 60s. Medicaid supports his 24-hour care. His illness made him prone to violent outbursts, and it quickly became impossible for my mother-in-law to care for him. I have no idea what my family would do without this expensive, quality care. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Allison Lange  
Somerville, MA 02143

--  
Allison K. Lange, PhD  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Loren Scherbak [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**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 had to retire early because of health problems. I fortunately have insurance through my employer, but relied on ACA to be there in the event my former employer would cut my ties to insurance. The ACA isn't perfect, but it is a safety net for many many people. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Loren Scherbak  
Rockville, MD

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** maryguzzy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care for ALL Americans

Kill this senseless bill NOW. Obamacare is working. Fix its flaws and move on. America MEANS it. We will not stand for Congress robbing our citizens,of their right to quality, affordable care.  
Mary Guzzy

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Noelle H. Bryan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy/Graham Healthcare Bill

Dear Senators,

Please vote NO on this sloppy, patched-together bill that's only aim is to destroy the ACA.

If passed, this bill would physically, mentally and financially ruin the lives of countless Americans. This Congress would be forever remembered for hastily selling-out the American public in order to satisfy a very small "base" without the health and financial ramifications available for discussion or debate.

Please vote no on the Cassidy/Graham healthcare bill.

Sincerely,  
Noelle H. Bryan  
Portland, Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Handelman, Michele [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Cassidy-Graham

Repealing ACA in this manner is dangerous and misguided. Many citizens will be adversely affected and it is just political grandstanding. Many things about ACA are flawed, though many more people DO HAVE ACCESS to care! The solution is not bribing certain states and deregulation, it is cost containment and equitable distribution of health care dollars and limiting funds to private insurance companies, lobbyists and big pharma! Eliminating the family planning mandate for employers and states is a huge mistake which will lead to more unwanted pregnancy and burden NICU and society in untold harmful ways.

Michele Handelman MS, FNP, CNM

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** michaelmcmonagle88 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Michael mcmonagle

Dear Sir/Madame,

I need quality, affordable health care as I have a preexisting illness(multiple sclerosis). I would like to see a bipartisan congressional effort to improve the ACA..... Not repeal it.

Yours sincerely,

Michael mcmonagle, Hoboken, N.J.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rebekah Carrow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

I'm Rebekah Carrow in NYC. I do not need a response. Please vote no to the Graham Cassidy Bill.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Rick Colson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy - Worst healthcare bill ever

As the husband of a woman who died of breast cancer and the father of a daughter struggling with a permanent disability I believe we should focus on a bipartisan approach to improving the ACA. The Graham Cassidy bill is simply evil and obscene.

Thank you,

Rick Colson  
Northampton, MA 01060  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** diane silva [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE Graham Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. Prior to the ACA I was denied affordable coverage because of allergies. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Diane Silva

[REDACTED]  
South Pasadena, CA 91030

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jessica Duke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham-Kennedy-Heller-Johnson Proposal

Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal.

I have serious concerns that provisions included in the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal would have a negative impact on Americans. Adding potentially millions of additional Americans to the ranks of the uninsured would strain an already stretched safety net, reduce opportunities for prevention and early intervention, and undermine improvements that are promoting continuity of care for women of reproductive age and children with special health care needs.

Eliminating the Prevention and Public Health Fund would create an immediate 12 percent gap in the budget for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which would in turn force the CDC to defund critical state and local public health efforts. Public health promotes the health of the entire population. Public health are the sometimes invisible programs that protect everyone from disease.

The potential for eliminating the requirement to cover Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) for services such as clinical preventive services, mental health, and maternity care is particularly troubling. Assurance of coverage for these services is critical to increasing the likelihood that pregnant women receive appropriate medical care and that all babies have a healthy start to life. Covering essential health benefits now pays dividends with a healthier population.

The proposal you are considering cuts too many programs now to have a positive effect on our nations health and economy.

I urge you all to vote against this proposal.

Regards,

Jessica Duke  
Portland, Oregon

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Grace Strother [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please reject the 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,  
Grace Strother

[REDACTED]  
Watertown, MA 02472

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Iris Valanti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy healthcare bill

Let this horrible bill die.

I was unemployed for more than a year in 2015, and without ACA, and subsidies to help pay premiums, I would not be insured. During that time I also needed surgery, had an allergic reaction, and ended up in ICU for 9 days. I can't imagine how I could ever have paid off a \$90,000 hospital bill. Strengthen ACA, don't repeal it.

Iris Valanti  
Pittsburgh, PA

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Carolyn Bradford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy'hearing Monday Sept 25,2017

Dear Sir:

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Therefore, I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill. We rely on insurance to cover pre-existing conditions. My grandson has been diagnosed with MS. His treatment costs \$10,000 monthly. As you know, there is no cure for MS. He needs the treatments to live as normal a life as possible for as long as possible.

I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional bill to improve ACH , not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bradford  
[REDACTED]  
Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Marrero [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO Graham Cassidy

I am writing today to oppose the shitburger bill that the desperate Republicans are trying to ram through Congress. The way they are conducting business is not one of a healthy democracy, but of a deranged Banana Republic trying to secure power and wealth while taking away healthcare from the most vulnerable in our society. Have any of these so called Christians asked themselves, "is this what Jesus would do?"

Jennifer Marrero

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Paige Morgan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am extraordinarily concerned at the process being used to attempt passage of the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill, with virtually no time allotted for hearings, debate, or in-depth investigations of the effects of the bill on future budgets and on the financial health of the Americans who will be affected by it, either through the removal of basic services, skyrocketing premiums, the return of caps on lifetime coverage, or lack of access to Medicaid funds.

I am concerned that Graham-Cassidy would cut deeply into federal funding, and result in millions of Americans losing healthcare coverage. This in turn would impact our state and national productivity, and our ability to compete with other national economies on the global stage.

Please encourage Congress to investigate Graham-Cassidy thoroughly, rather than just trying to ram it through without proper study.

Thank you,  
Paige Morgan  
Miami, FL

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Ellen Bannister [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing Comments

Ellen Bannister  
[REDACTED]

Norman, OK 73071

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to share my perspective as a parent of children with disabilities. The bill contains changes in Medicaid that will be potentially devastating to children with disabilities like my sons. I am the parent of two lively, affectionate boys who have multiple developmental disabilities. My older son, Ben, is on the autism spectrum and has a congenital heart defect. My younger son, Eliot, was born with a rare genetic disorder called Pfeiffer Syndrome. He has hydrocephalus, a shunt, and has needed many brain and skull surgeries to stay alive.

My husband and I are fully employed with private health insurance through our employers that covers our children. This insurance is expensive, and it would have been adequate if our children had typical medical needs. However, their intense health care, medication, therapy, and daily care needs forced us to apply for the TEFRA program, secondary Medicaid for children with a high level of developmental disability. Without that Medicaid program, first we would have gone bankrupt. My son Eliot is now nine. He has needed brain surgery almost every year of his life. What is terrifying to us is that without access to the right surgeons, medication, and therapies, which secondary Medicaid has helped him get, he might not be alive today.

Medicaid is important to us now, and we access a number of Medicaid programs, including Personal Care, that help us work as a family. Medicaid will also be vital when the boys become adults. When the boys graduate from high school, I will need the DDS In-Home Supports Waiver to have someone stay with the boys while I am at work, since they require 24 hour supervision. They cannot be left alone ever, and I do not anticipate that changing. Currently, they are on a waiting list for the waiver of more than 7,500 people. The wait is estimated at 15 years now. If the waiver is eliminated, my future as a tax payer in Oklahoma is ended, since I will need to quit working.

I am grateful to the current Medicaid program. Medicaid has succeeded in meeting its aims: providing high quality health care to those with the lowest incomes and their children, keeping families from losing everything, and protecting the lives and opportunities of the most medically fragile among us.

Thank you for considering my point of view as a worried parent and Oklahoman.

Sincerely,

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Natalie Roberts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators:

Please vote no on this bill. It has not been properly vetted and has not been scored. A hearing in the Homeland Security Committee is a farce. The hearing should've been held before your committee. The reason it was not is because informed examination and questioning of the bill would reveal its gaping flaws. The effect of that bill is to make insurance coverage unaffordable to or unobtainable by those with pre-existing conditions, chronic conditions and a need for expensive care. You know this is true, whatever the proponents may claim. Healthcare providers oppose the bill, saying Obamacare is actually succeeding, but without proper hearings, you will not hear their testimony.

We voters realize a great deal of donor money is riding on your repeal of Obamacare, but we urge you to resist the lure of money and power, and show the courage to do what is right for those among us who have no such power.

Thank you,

Natalie Roberts  
Tampa FL

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Annette Shine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public comment on Graham-Cassidy hearing  
**Attachments:** Graham\_Cassidy\_Comments.pdf; Graham\_Cassidy\_Comments.docx

Attached are my individual comments for the Finance Committee hearing on the Graham-Cassidy proposal. I have included both a pdf and a Word file for the same comments.

Thank you for soliciting these statements.

Annette D. Shine

[REDACTED]  
Toledo, OH 43614

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mijanou Rachel Moshe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:25 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25, 2017

To whom it may concern:

This concerns A LOT of people and I am one. The terrible and ironic thing is that it does not concern you. I rely on affordable healthcare. You don't. I pay for your comprehensive healthcare. This critical subject demands a bipartisan effort and deep, serious debate to come up with how to address this elemental issue. To try to push through something so haphazard with a shoulder shrug is disrespectful, arrogant and cruel. History will judge you.

Sincerely,  
M.R. Mosher

[REDACTED]  
New York, NY 10025

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

---

**From:** Caira Weeks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Hello,

I am writing to persuade you to vote against the Graham-Cassidy proposal. Losing Medicaid, in my opinion would be a devastating blow not only to me but to those around me.

I work for a company that provides support to people with intellectual disabilities.

We support 300+ individuals with behavioral health services, Home and Community services, Homemaker/Chore Services as well as other services. These services are important to combat the risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation, poor quality of life and health & safety issues.

In addition to the people we support, we also have over 300+ staff. 90% of our workforce provide hands-on support to these individuals who receive our services. Our hard-working staff help with teaching things such as: life skills, Cooking skills, Traffic Safety, Stranger Awareness and how to socialize with others.

A lot of our staff help individuals who are totally dependent on staff to take care or natural care provider for their needs. Our staff work various shifts, in the clients home or community. Some clients need help with being feed, bathed, dressed and taken to group activities. Most of these individuals have pre-existing conditions and rely on Medicaid to help with their care.

To do this job you must be kind, compassionate and genuine. The payment that they receive comes from Medicaid money. This is the money that they use to secure housing, personal needs and the support the American money. Money comes from these workers taxes to support both the Federal and Local Government.

Furthermore, the services that we provide allows the natural support providers( caregivers/family members) to have time to gain full employment. Since the caregiver is working, more money will come to that particular family. Without our company providing staff, the family might not be able to have that opportunity. Services like the one my job provides, helps families to support themselves and move away from the poverty line. The more money the family has, the more likely it is that they are also supporting the American Economy.

There are many other programs and organizations that do the same thing that we do. Together we serve many families. Without our services, many families would not be able to support themselves. We provide an valuable service while supporting our local economy. Our businesses purchase products from local vendors to help with continuity of care. Our workers support local small business when they go to lunch.

Restructuring of Medicaid in the manner that you want to, will cost many people to lose their jobs because agencies would either have to close down completely or do mass layoffs.

To many people, what I am saying may not mean a lot to them but I hope that you will take my letter in consideration before you reach the decision that will affect millions of people.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Nikki [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

I depend on quality, affordable healthcare.

Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I would be denied coverage if Graham-Cassidy is approved.

Americans with pre-existing illness will not be able to afford coverage.

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

Sincerely,

Nichole Fowler  
Irvine, California



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Shayla Benoit [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/ Cassidy Hearing

Hello,

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I suffer from endometriosis and require monthly birth control to help with my painful symptoms. The ACA has allowed me to receive free birth control and has improved my quality of life. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Shayla Benoit  
West Palm Beach, FL



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Medicaid Cuts

Hello,

I am a professional working in the field of Developmental Disabilities. My agency has worked to assist individuals with disabilities to transition out of institutions and into homes of their own within the community. Through the use of Medicaid funds, we assist individuals in living their life to the fullest and living a life free from segregation. Without Medicaid funding, our most vulnerable populations would be at risk for increased medical issues, neglect and death.

I am very concerned about the Graham Cassidy Bill. Cutting Medicaid funding and rolling back the Medicaid expansion would jeopardize coverage for people with disabilities. How our country treats its most vulnerable citizens is what defines us as a nation. I would challenge each and every individual who is in the position to affect this change to consider how they would feel if they had a family member with a disability. Would you want that person to live in a congregate setting with little access to healthcare, employment opportunities, social isolation and a lack of access to education? Medicaid funding is used to insure people with disabilities have the support they need to access the opportunities that individuals without disabilities have and this is just basic human decency. Please consider this when deciding what you stand for. The disability advocacy community is watching closely.

Shawna Viskantas, LMSW  
Mental Health Professional

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Ferndale, MI 48220  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

This message contains information which may be confidential and privileged. Unless you are the intended addressee (or authorized to receive for the intended addressee), you may not use, copy or disclose to anyone the message or any information contained in the message. If you have received the message in error, please advise the sender by reply and delete the message.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] behalf of Sarah A Sharp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Disagreement with Graham Cassidy

Greetings,

I'm Sarah Sharp, a voter in Portland, Oregon (97207). I'm a self-employed small business owner who uses the healthcare exchange for health insurance. My business WILL NOT EXIST if Graham-Cassidy passes. I have pre-existing conditions that would make finding private healthcare too difficult. I would have to close my business if the healthcare exchange collapsed due to the GOP efforts to sabotage it.

I also think it is wrong to cut millions of people's healthcare subsidies in order to give a tax cut to the rich. The American Doctors Association says this violates the principal of "Do no harm". People will die because the GOP choose to line its donor's pockets with blood money.

I urge senators to vote no on the Graham-Cassidy amendment.

Sarah Sharp

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Lindsay Skay Whitacre [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill for public hearing testimony

To Whom it may concern:

My name is Lindsay Skay Whitacre. I am a 38 year old wife, mother, digital archivist, and an engaged US Citizen.

However today I write to you primarily as a wife and a mother. My husband, Andrew and I have an hilarious, stubborn, smart three year old son. We are teaching him to be kind to people, to be brave, and to always try to make people believe the best in themselves. Perhaps I am biased, but I like to think that he is pretty awesome.

My husband Andrew (Andy) is 37. He is a two time cancer survivor. The first time he got cancer was when he was 27 and we were engaged. He was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma paraneoplastic limbic encephalitis. He lost his memory, he had open chest surgery to remove the tumor. He went through 6 months of chemotherapy. During this time, I lost my job because I was told, "I wasn't fully engaged." We weren't married so I went on COBRA (\$700 a month!) while I took care of him, picked up freelance work where I could, and job hunted. We were lucky. Andy got better. Our parents were able to help us out (his dad even moved in with us for a time - three people in a 2 bedroom 727 square foot apartment made for some interesting moments.) We got married on October 4th, 2008. It was amazing.

Life goes on, we bought a house, got new jobs, promotions, had a baby. Learned basic carpentry so we could fix up our house. Basic everyday things - that most people took for granted. We never took it for granted though - because we figured we had been through hell and we would enjoy every minute of things.

Well sometimes life can be funny. During the summer of 2016 Andy thought he had a canker sore on his tongue. His dentist though he had a canker sore. The oral surgeon who finally removed a part of it was pretty sure it was a canker sore, but to be safe, biopsied it.

In August 2016, my husband who had never smoked a day in his life, who drank only occasionally, and whose job entails a great deal of public speaking, was diagnosed with tongue cancer. We were lucky. We had good insurance. Our families got into gear again and helped out, friends babysat our kiddo while I took Andy to doctor appointments and then finally surgery to remove a part of his tongue and perform a neck dissection to make sure no lymph nodes were infected.

Do you know what it is like to explain to a child that his father (who hangs the moon in his eyes) is coming home with tubes in his neck? That his father is sick? Do you know how hard it is for a mother/partner to try to keep everything together and try not to outwardly worry so she doesn't scare her son? To keep going to work, to wonder if this time the other shoe is going to drop?

And we are so extraordinarily lucky. We had healthcare, we had the resources and the time to go to the doctor's office. To make our health a priority. We had savings to pay what insurance didn't cover.

If the Cassidy-Graham proposal passes, we won't be lucky the next time. We are both working professionals, but if another shoe drops we might not be able to catch it in time. The 2016 surgery cost us \$1000 after

insurance. We had savings, thank god. If a lifetime cap is enacted, we would be screwed, if one of us ever loses our health insurance, because of pre-existing conditions, we would never be able to get insurance again.

I was born and raised in America. I am proud to be an American citizen. I love this country. But this bill is a disaster to put it mildly. The republican party should be ashamed of themselves.

Respectfully,  
Lindsay Skay Whitacre

--  
Lindsay Skay Whitacre

A large black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature area.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Dryden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose this bill

I am 72 years old and am being successfully treated for stage 4 cancer. Taking away support for pre-existing conditions as this bill does (putting that decision under state control effectively does that) is inhuman and cruel. I am priveleged enough to have private insurance but all insurance will be affected by these proposed changes.

This bill is opposed by nearly every medical organization in the nation and even some insurance companies. Health care should NOT be controlled by states.

I do not understand how Republican senators and congress people can be so completely heartless. You have your own health care and do not seem to care about anyone else. How can you call yourself Christians?

Stop being so incredibly self-centered and work with the bi-partisan coalition to fix the problems with the ACA for starters and then work towards universal health care, so that we are not the only first world country in the world without it!

Mary Dryden  
Fresno, CA  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Colleen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham-Cassidy Bill

To the members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I implore you to consider the millions of Americans who rely on the ACA to save their lives! In particular my 14 year old son.

My son was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at the age of 10. Crohn's is chronic inflammation that causes pain and ulcers throughout the entire digestive system. Indirectly, it affects the entire body. Some of these side effects are anemia, Lupus, arthritis, fatigue and even Cancer. My son requires a biologic infusion medication that currently costs \$9,416 every 8 weeks.

Under this new bill, my family will not be able to afford to care for my son due to the fact that this new bill will :

- 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.

Please consider my son's situation and protect his rights...protect his LIFE.

Sincerely,  
**Colleen McGarry**  
Cedar Park, TX

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Beth Spektor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill Comments

Hello,

I am a 32-year old active and productive adult who has held a job since my days of babysitting at age 12. I am also an adult living with a rare chronic untreatable illness, Idiopathic Syringomyelia. I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Annually, I require visits with a neurosurgeon, physiatrist, MRIs, and other diagnostic assessments as well as medications. Over the past two years, I have also dealt with severe Vitamin D deficiency causing me multiple bone fractures. These fractures require bi-weekly visits to Podiatrists, Orthopedists, x-rays, and MRI, consultations with an Endocrinologist and Nutritionist. Now, I am struggling with GERD, which has required me to see a Gastroenterologist and to undergo an Endoscopy and Esophogram. As you might imagine, I would be either be in chronic severe pain or extreme debt if I had limited and/or extremely expensive insurance coverage due to all of my pre-existing conditions.

I am able to hold down a job, provide for my family, help raise my nieces, and volunteer in my community solely because I have adequate, cost-effective healthcare. Because of this, I vehemently oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Beth Spektor  
Astoria, NY



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

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**From:** Patrick O'Mahen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments for the record of Hearing of 9-25-2017

Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden and members of the U.S. Senate Committee of Finance:

I'm taking a minute to exercise my rights as a citizen to send in a comment on The Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson bill that is the subject of your committee's Sept. 25 meeting.

I work as a health services researcher at the Veterans' Health Administration, and though my comments today are certainly my own and do not necessarily represent those of the VA or the U.S. Government, my work as a research fellow over the last year has certainly informed by knowledge of the Affordable Care Act, as well as various proposals to repeal it that have been advanced by Republicans over the years.

I oppose Graham-Cassidy for numerous reasons.

I oppose the fact that instead of building on the successful parts of the Affordable Care Act, Graham-Cassidy destroys them. I oppose how it eliminates the Medicaid expansion for poor and working-class adults. I oppose how it eliminates premium subsidies and cost-sharing reduction subsidies that allow working- and middle-class families without access to quality insurance through their job to purchase insurance. It angers me at how it shirks federal responsibility for the health of our citizens and dumps the task on the states, giving them only two years to construct comprehensive health coverage programs and underfunded block grants. It also enrages me that the bill takes money from states that have worked hard to build up their public health systems and cover their citizens, while redistributing money to states that have failed to take advantage of federal aid to support their citizens.

Finally, I stridently oppose the draconian and inhumane caps this plan puts on traditional Medicaid, which will lead to numerous children, parents, disables and elderly Americans needing long-term care losing their health care; causing needless suffering, deaths and bankruptcies.

I could have this letter focus on the volumes of non-partisan research that exist that suggests that Medicaid is the most cost-effective part of the U.S. Health care system; that it is popular with the people it serves, that it likely prevents numerous unnecessary deaths, that it effectively serves people who would otherwise have no insurance or health care, that kids who are covered by Medicaid tend to do much better later in life that similar ones who go without coverage.

However, you already have those reports and comments from numerous medical professionals, researchers, actuaries, health officials, activists and others who unanimously oppose this bill. You and your staffs should read them and thoroughly understand them before voting on this proposal.

Today my testimony is personal.

The philosopher John Rawls wrote about the "veil of ignorance" – that is the best way to select just policies would be for us to decide on them behind a veil of ignorance before we know what our lot in life is.

My wife and I are expecting our first child next spring.

We're still mostly behind that veil of ignorance.

We don't know what health problems our child will have. It is quite possible they will be healthy and go through youth with little more than the usual bouts of strep throat with perhaps a broken bone or two mixed in. Or they could have a serious condition that requires large amounts of time and money to treat – a congenital heart defect, cystic fibrosis, or some condition I would have never heard of until the medical staff tells us after delivery.

But I know two things.

First, I will love my child no matter what and will fight doggedly to get them the health care they need.

Second, that behind my own personal veil of ignorance, I know I want a comprehensive national health system that will take care of my child should they need it. I want a comprehensive health system that takes care of any other child who needs it. I want a comprehensive health system that takes care of any of my fellow citizens who need it, in part because I owe it to them as a member of our commonwealth and in part because I know that support will be there for my family and I in case we need it.

Graham-Cassidy achieves none of these things. Please discard it and build off the existing framework of the ACA so we can improve the healthcare system instead of destroying it.

Sincerely,

Patrick O'Mahen

Houston, Texas

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jamie Evanini [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing for 9/25/2017

To the Senate Committee on Finance:

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. Certainly, the ACA needs some improvement, but any plan that will result in people losing their health insurance is immoral and unacceptable.

Our country is so divided right now. We need our senators to come together in a bipartisan way and work this out patiently, without worrying about a deadline of Sept. 30th.

My concern stems from the situations of many people that I love: my mom, who has stage 3 melanoma; my dad, who is diabetic, and needs a new kidney; my sister who was born with birth defects; my aunt and uncle, who are on a very limited income and who have been helped a lot by the ACA. What will happen to them if they lose the protections of the Affordable Care Act?

The American Cancer Society and American Diabetes Association is against this bill, along with many, many other health experts and healthcare-related organizations. I follow their lead, and the lead of my heart, in opposing this latest attempt to gut the protections and advances we've made via the ACA. Again, it surely needs tweaking and improvement, but just as surely, this Graham-Cassidy bill is no improvement.

Sincerely,  
Jamie Evanini  
Pennington, NJ

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Matt Samford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy thoughts

Do not let this bill pass, it would be a disaster for our country.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tara Montague [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** comments for GCH hearing  
**Attachments:** Montague - Medicaid 9-25-17.docx

September 25, 2017

Dear Senators:

My daughter Mary Montague is a 19 year-old young woman with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type I and Cerebrocostomandibular Syndrome. She has a tracheostomy and a ventilator and is oxygen dependent. She gets all of her nutrition through a g-tube, and is in a wheel-chair. She is 100% dependent on someone else for all of her care. She can do absolutely nothing for herself, however she is a happy, outgoing young lady who loves to be with others and socialize.

Any cuts to Medicaid funding would be devastating for her quality of life. Medicaid pays for her therapies at school. She absolutely loves school and enjoys being with her friends every day. Speech, occupational, and physical therapy help her make the most of the time that she's there. Cuts to Medicaid would threaten school funding and would jeopardize the therapies that she and all of the other children there need and receive through school.

In addition, Medicaid assists in paying for her much needed medical equipment and supplies. Without her Medicaid the cost of her equipment and supplies would be so substantial that it would be absolutely impossible for us to pay those costs and, therefore, to be able to keep her at home with us. Then she would have to be placed in a much more expensive institutional type setting.

And at home with us is where she wants to be. We had to fight to get her home with us in the first place 19 years ago because institutions were the typical place of care - not at home at that point. Thankfully, we have had the necessary services in place that have enabled us to take care of her safely and quite well at home.

Without these services I don't know what we would do. I have no doubt in my mind that if she was put in a facility 19 years ago, she would no way, shape, or form still be alive and here with us today. It is only because she has been at home with her family, happy and thriving, in the setting that she wanted to be, and with all of the needed equipment and supplies, with the nursing care in place to make sure that she continues to stay healthy, that she is still here with us today.

If cuts are made to Medicaid because of repealing and replacing this plan with something that is devastating to anyone on Medicaid, it would pretty much be giving her a death sentence.

We already have to fight for every syringe, every ventilator circuit, every nursing hour. If cuts are made it's going to be even worse. It will be harder to pay nurses a competitive wage, which means it's going to be harder to get nurses into the house. I don't know what we would possibly do in that situation, but I do know that if she cannot get the needed medical equipment in the house the only other option is going to be getting the needed attention in a facility. Again, there is no doubt in my mind having her in a facility would be the end of her. She's happy living with her family, going to school, hanging out with family and friends, playing games, watching

TV, listening to her books, listening to the radio, going to Taylor Swift concerts, and going to the movies. We just did a Make-A- Wish trip to Washington DC last year that Mary was over the moon about.

None of that would be possible if she was forced to be in a facility due to funding cuts. She would just be stuck in a facility. I can't even imagine what that would look like for her. If she's in the hospital I sleep there with her 24/7 so that she is not alone. Mary is completely non-verbal. She needs somebody that understands her and knows her well to be able to interpret her needs and wants. You're not going to get that in facility someplace where you have constantly changing staff. As good as the staff may be, there is no way you would have that consistency. Who is going to take the time to find out if she wants watch TV, or listen to a book, or to her Taylor Swift CD's, or how how she wants to wear her hair today? Mary needs to be able to go out and pick a prom dress, and get her hair done, and be asked by a classmate to be his prom date.

If she weren't able to live at home as she wishes to, she would not have the experiences that she has had. I feel she deserves to have the same range of experiences as anyone else out there. If she were your child, wouldn't you want that for her?

Home and Community-based services have really enabled her to be happy and to be healthy for the most part, for the past 19 years. We've been able to manage everything that she has going on and have given her a life that is over 17 years longer than her diagnosis would suggest. Again, there is no way that that would have occurred without the type of care that she gets, the services and supports that are covered by Medicaid, and the love of being with her family.

Making cuts to Medicaid would mean an end to the way of life of all of these children and young adults who rely on Medicaid for the services. Do you want to be the one that takes their lives away from them? Please think about this when you are making these decisions to vote without any type of hearings. And even if we do have hearings, Medicaid cuts simply should not be on the table, especially not the way it's been proposed. It will be to the detriment of everyone who relies on Medicaid for needed services and supports. And to the community at large which will no longer have the opportunity to have these individuals living alongside them and adding to the richness of their lives in countless ways.

Sincerely,

Tara Montague  
Burlington, NJ

A large black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature area.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Seligman, Karen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill is dangerous

I am a physician in NY. Patients and loved ones rely on the supports that were built into Medicaid and expanded under the Affordable Care Act. A close friend's son in his 20s was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Their friends and family are terrified that if this bill passes he will forever be at the mercy of governmental decisions about his preexisting condition, and this could severely limit his health, quality of life, and of course life span. There are many stories like this, which is why all major organizations of healthcare providers, patient advocates, hospitals, even insurance companies, and all state Medicaid administrators have come out against this bill. They have not been invited to testify at hearings which can only mean that the Senate does not want to know what devastating impact it would have on people's lives. Nor does it want to know how many tens of millions will be impacted from the CBO.

Making a few concessions to states whose senate votes are needed is a transparent effort to thwart the will of Americans and force people to ail without help and die prematurely to save some money for those who do not need it. Do not let this bill become law.

Thank you.

Karen Seligman, MD

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marcella McQueen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE SAY NO TO CUTS TO MEDICAID

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you to give you an idea of the negative impact that making deep and devastating cuts to Medicaid would have on our family.

My adult son, is working very hard to become a productive member of society.

He is a student and he has cerebral palsy. Medicaid is his health insurance and without it, we could not afford the care that he receives from doctors, specialists and hospitals.

Since he requires long term supports to manage his day to day activities, his productivity would be drastically reduced. We pay for a lot of the support that he receives and that puts a huge dent in our budget. If we were faced with paying the full cost of prescriptions, physician visits and physical & occupational therapy, we would definitely be bankrupt.

Please show some compassion and consider the people who don't have great health insurance from their employers or the means to purchase a healthcare plan that would take care of their essential health needs.

I urge you to oppose the introduction of any bill that would deliver such a devastating impact to so many citizens like my son. It is my hope that you will consider these facts and do whatever you can within your power to help my son and others remain healthy, live in the community and stay out of costly and depressing institutions.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Marcella McQueen



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Suzanne Curry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Pearson, Beth (Warren); Hurt, Nikki (Markey)  
**Subject:** Comments on Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
**Attachments:** HCFA Senate Finance Letter 9.25.17.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached comments from Health Care For All in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson health care proposal. Thank you.

Suzanne Curry  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Boston, MA 02110

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Robin Edgell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

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

Robin Edgell  
Wrightstown, NJ

[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Shoshi Glazer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Hearing, Monday, September 25, 2017

Good morning:

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I have several pre-existing conditions, all of which are genetic, and none of which have cures. I have celiac disease, for which the only "treatment" is to stay on a gluten free diet. Unfortunately, most medications do not list gluten, so it is impossible to know if a generic tylenol or generic antibiotics contain a product that might make me ill (spoiler alert: they do). There are also those, myself included, who even on a completely gluten free diet still exhibit symptoms of stomach issues, tremendous fatigue, brain fog, and a host of other issues that affect every single choice made daily. Without access to cost effective, quality medical treatment, my condition would spiral out of control and I would not be able to maintain my full time job and I would no longer be a productive member of society. I would like to see a bipartisan effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Shoshana Glazer

[REDACTED]  
Baltimore, MD 21208

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Yeou-Cheng Ma [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

Dear Sirs and Madam,

As a physician in charge of children with developmental disabilities for the past 4 decades, it would be a disaster for their families if the Graham Cassidy bill passed in its present form.

Please let any health care reform go through bipartisan input, in order to serve ALL of our constituents!

Yeou-Cheng Ma

--

Dr. Yeou-Cheng Ma  
[REDACTED] Fresh Meadows, NY 11365-2139  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Sue Nichols [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy

This bill is a travesty for those who can least afford it.

How can any Senator vote for a bill that will take away health care for so many?

Shame on you.

--  
Sue Nichols  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Rowley, MA 01969  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gracie Oser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham/ Cassidy hearing Monday, September 25

**To whom it may concern -**

I rely on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I would not have been able to afford any kind of health insurance without the ACA. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,  
Grace Rabier  
Evanston, IL.

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Dori Wozniak [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO to Graham-Cassidy

I am imploring the Senate to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy. I spent last year with my sister, who died of lung cancer, lose almost everything she had to pay for care. Since she was a sophomore in high school until three months after her cancer diagnosis at age 69, Margaret worked full-time and lived modestly. She died single, childless and almost destitute because of medical bills.

This has got to stop. This is not America.

Dori Wozniak  
Minneapolis, MN

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hunter M. Currey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments re: Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

The math is off and you know it. You are shamelessly miscalculating and misrepresenting the cuts states would experience with this heartless "replacement" of the Affordable Care Act. Americans need healthcare. The Government is in a unique position to provide it most cost-effectively, if you could just take that leap into "socialism." The entrepreneurs of this country are hesitant to leave their desk jobs, to innovate, to invent, to move America forward with great new ideas and products, because if they leave their current jobs, they are worried their families will not have access to affordable healthcare.

Women and their children will suffer most under this terrible healthcare bill, as they always do. How can our country move forward as leaders when our children, again and again, are given short shrift? They are who will be running this country, and if they are fighting illnesses, trying to make up for lost learning due to sickness, and are weak in mind and body, how will they ensure the United States of America endures as a model of democracy?

Please, reach across the aisle, return to normal order, and work everyone to craft addenda to the Affordable Care Act, or simply expand Medicare, to help America gain some self-respect back.

Hunter Currey, elementary school teacher, father, citizen  
Gresham, Oregon

--  
The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.  
--John Muir

[REDACTED]



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

---

**From:** Chris Jesser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy

Senate Finance Committee,

I respectfully urge you to reject Graham-Cassidy in favor of the bipartisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. The proposal is half-baked, ill-considered, and would have significant negative consequences for my friends and family. Graham-Cassidy would cause 32 million people to lose their health coverage (although it's hard to be sure considering y'all won't have a full CBO score) while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Chris Englert-Jessen  
Dallas, TX

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

---

**From:** Whitney Knight [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** My Healthcare Story

Good morning,

I am a teacher of English Language Learners at a Title I school in Southaven, MS. I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. My students depend on Medicaid expansions for basic health needs. It is so much harder to motivate students to excel academically when they are constantly sick. Expansions to Medicaid from the ACA have helped these students get the healthcare they need without parents having to sacrifice other necessities. These Medicaid expansions have also allowed my students who are experiencing trauma due to deportations of family members, refugee situations, or death of loved ones to receive counseling from certified health professionals while in-school. This is invaluable for my students and for me as their teacher advocate. For these reasons and more, I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Whitney Knight

Southaven, MS

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Hugh Carola [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** REJECT Graham-Cassidy.

Finance Committee,

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

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

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

Hugh Carola  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Maywood, New Jersey 07607

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lori R [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GCH bill

No

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rebecca Schloss [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No to Graham Cassidy

This is a terrible bill! Do not support it, please!

Dr. Rebecca Hartkopf Schloss

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Katie Carrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** No on GC

Senators,

I am writing to ask you to please oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and any other bill that would limit the current essential health benefits or place caps on Medicaid spending. I believe this bill would be harmful for many in our country, especially for people with disabilities and pre-existing conditions. Please support the most vulnerable in our society by standing against this bill. Thank you.

Katie Carrell  
[REDACTED]  
Nashville TN 37211

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Zinno [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Medicaid block-grants

For individuals with Developmental Disabilities it is imperative that block granting Medicaid is OPPOSED. The long-term effect on services to individuals with DD will be severely affected if passed.

Michael J. Zinno, CPA, MBA  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sheila Teasley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25

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,

**Sheila Teasley**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]





**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gisel Mora [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

On behalf of my elder mother and two orphaned nieces, 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 people like them along with other most vulnerable members of our communities, seniors and people with disabilities.

Gisel Mora  
Fallston, Maryland

Gisel Mora  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Marcia Franklin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy: OPPOSED

My family relies on access to quality, affordable health care. I am therefore strongly OPPOSED to the Graham-Cassidy bill. Although our family is insured through my husband's workplace, if anything should ever happen to him—the sole breadwinner in the family—we would be in big trouble. The provisions in this bill would make it impossible for us to afford care.

Even now our healthcare costs are almost untenably high. Over the past several years, we have had enough out-of-pocket costs (thanks to our high-deductible plan, the best of several not-so-great employer-offered options) to cause some serious budgeting issues. One year we had to borrow money just to cover our deductible, which was maxed out when I suffered a herniated disc in my neck that required surgery, and my husband needed emergency gall bladder surgery.

We are generally healthy people, and yet as a family of four with growing kids and a "pretty good" insurance plan through my husband's employer, we often struggle with healthcare costs. Nothing in the Graham-Cassidy bill will do anything to help my family. In fact, it will actively work *against* both our future interests and the immediate interests of many of my friends and family members (probably a dozen of whom I could name off the top of my head) who would literally die without adequate access to healthcare.

I urge the Senate to vote NO on this vitriolic, nasty bill. I understand that a lot of Senators ran on a "repeal and replace" platform, but please realize that many of the constituents who voted for that campaign promise didn't necessarily understand the full implications. Listen to what they're saying *now*. Vote No.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Marcia Franklin  
[REDACTED]

St Paul, MN 55117

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sarah Woodhouse [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Bill

Good Morning and thanks for taking comments. As a physician I have many, many concerns about this bill. I will briefly share only two.

1) I am a mental health professional and am concerned that under this new bill states could allow insurers to omit coverage of mental health and addiction treatment. Obviously mental illness and opioid addiction and other addictions aren't just going to go away. Failure to cover and treat them will result in loss of life, worsening illnesses and in the long run greater costs to all

2) The ACA reduced the number of personal bankruptcies caused by medical debt. This number would skyrocket again with the G-C bill

And please take note of the fact that there are countless tragedies happening in our world at the moment. Congress can do little to fix most of them but killing the ACA would create a tragedy that is solely in the hands of Congress. You have had 8 years to work on it and have failed to even try. Stop producing these terrible bills, sit down and do the hard work that is required to improve it.

Thanks again for taking comments,

Sincerely,

Sarah Woodhouse MD  
[REDACTED]  
Richmond, VA 23229

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sarah Weissmann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Kathleen Sheehan; Lauren Stanford  
**Subject:** Statement for the Record from The ALS Association regarding Graham-Cassidy  
**Attachments:** ALS Graham Cassidy Testimony for the Record.pdf

Good Morning,

Please find attached an electronic copy of an official statement for the record from The ALS Association opposing the Graham-Cassidy proposal. If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Sheehan, Vice President of Public Policy, at [ksheehan@alsa-national.org](mailto:ksheehan@alsa-national.org) or 202-591-5319.

Thank you,  
Sarah

Sarah Weissmann | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Midge S [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE do not pass Graham-Cassidy

My husband and I rely on quality, affordable healthcare and we definitely oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. We would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

We are both in our 60's and have what would probably be considered "pre-existing conditions." I have high blood pressure and my husband has high cholesterol. Other family members and friends have similar or even more severe issues. In my opinion, there are very few people in our age range who could be said to not have any "pre-existing" condition.

At this stage of our lives, we do NOT need a major financial worry added to those we already have. I dare say that worry about healthcare costs can negatively affect the health of many seniors due to the added stress suffered on that account.

Friends in the same age bracket who are English and Australian do not worry about health care and travel extensively, enjoying their retirement and life in general to the fullest; our American friends, not so much.

We live in Nelson County, Virginia, (where we have one traffic signal in the entire county), which still has a lot of farmers as well as people living up in the mountain "hollers." I am sure that they will be adversely impacted if the ACA is repealed.

The healthcare situation is also very important to us because of two families with whom we are friends. Both have children who are medically fragile and who, without the extra help they receive through Medicaid, will have their already very fragile lives seriously impacted and could die. This is not an overstatement but a sad reality. Their parents work and contribute to our economy and they have insurance, but the needs of these children far exceed what any family could handle on their own except for the very wealthy.

The people who came here bonded together in the American melting pot and formed a singular identity as Americans. To me, the American spirit and the very soul of our country has always been the willingness of Americans to come together and help one another, to think of the other person and to help others. That has disappeared from our country and needs to return. I respectfully request you to do the right thing and NOT pass the current healthcare bill, which is a return to "insurance for the healthy and wealthy."

The ACA has helped many people and we need to keep it until it can be replaced by something better--not repealed to leave millions adrift and many of us losing our healthcare because of our "pre-existing" conditions.

We need open, transparent and thorough bipartisan hearings; extensive research; testimony from patients and their families and caregivers, as well as from doctors, nurses, technicians, hospitals and other care facilities. We need open debate in Congress and a TRUE bipartisan effort to come up with the best healthcare bill possible. All members of Congress, as well as the President and his family need to be covered under the very same healthcare system as all of the citizens of the United States of America.

Because of all this, I adamantly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. ... I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Most sincerely,

Margaret W. Shawley ("Midge")  
Nellysford, Virginia

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Leslie Lytle [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Do NOT repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Good morning,

I am a 61 year old woman with an autoimmune disorder, Sjogren's Syndrome, which was diagnosed about 15 years ago. Most of my adult life I have been self-employed, which means that my access to affordable health insurance has been marginal. Though I manage my autoimmune disorder with yoga, exercise, decent diet, and no medications other than over the counter Mucinex, prior to the ACA, it was like a huge black mark on my record. I had to go through grueling underwriting questioning in which I was required to dredge up health records from 5 - 10 years back, only to be declared ineligible for health insurance except for the one high risk pool plan in my state, which allowed me to purchase a \$20,000 deductible plan for over \$1000 per month. You can't imagine what it feels like to be rejected for health insurance for a disorder over which you have no control. It's like being labeled defective.

And that scenario is what I will return to - if even that option is open to me - if the Lindsey-Graham bill is passed. I will be uninsurable for the next four years, until I qualify for Medicare.

Once the ACA passed, I was able to purchase better insurance at a significantly lower cost. Granted, those prices have gone up - and the ACA needs some work. However, it has been a godsend for me and my family.

As someone who works in public health, the effect of the Lindsey-Graham bill on Medicaid will decimate health care support for low-income families. States will be able to selectively determine whether to cover essential benefits such as maternity care, a benefit which is proven to have a long term positive impact on the health of our mothers and our children.

I ask that our legislators turn toward each other and work together to craft health care legislation that ensure that all Americans have equal access to health care resources. My life, and the lives of so many others, rest on your shoulders.

Thank you for your swift and honest addressing of this critical issue.

Leslie Lytle

[REDACTED]  
Richmond, VA 23220

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jon Berger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Please work to Improve the AFCA

Hello

I am Jon Berger of new jersey . I am a freelance Broadway musician and my wife does costumes on Broadway also freelance . We are in the middle class tax bracket

My wife of 20 years relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of her challenging disability / condition called Achalasia

She was born with an esophagus that relies on gravity in order to digest food. The muscles do not function. Also the opening where it reaches the stomach is extremely narrow making normal digestion extremely difficult

So Often the food she eats gets stuck and she will end up throwing up Other times the muscles will spasm uncontrollably causing hours of heaving She requires medication to slow the attacks when ever they occur . Also migraines headaches are often an additional result of these headaches Both these medications are affordable right now with the perfectly affordable health care system we have in place

Since her diagnosis 37 years ago she has had 2 major surgeries

And about every 10 years a necessary dangerous ballon dilation to help her better digest food

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

Sincerely

Jonathan Berger  
Teaneck , NJ

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Donene Feist [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GC  
  
**Importance:** High

My family among many families have a pre existing condition.  
I worry not only for our family but in the process of repeal, you are also targeting Medicaid as a whole  
This should not be in this fight without thorough committee hearings and dialogue.  
What happens to people on home and community based waivers who are kept alive because of them  
WE can do better  
Repeal with this replace is not the way to go.  
Bipartisan efforts are the way to go.  
We simply shouldn't pass something for the sake of passing something  
Pass now and fix it later is not the way to go for the 90,000 North Dakotans who receive Medicaid.  
Families should be able to care for their child without having this constant worry.  
Removing pre existing conditions and life time max., you are causing catastrophic harm  
This is a disaster.  
You can stop it  
Donene Feist  
[REDACTED]  
Edgeley ND 58433



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mary Tikalsky [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose 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 family's stories with Medicaid, pre-existing conditions, disabilities, affordability, diabetes are many and life-threatening. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Mary Tikalsky

Wheaton,IL 60187

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joshua [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to oppose the Graham-Cassidy-Heller repeal bill in favor of the bipartisan bill being drafted by the HELP committee. We know the Graham-Cassidy-Heller bill threatens the coverage of tens of millions of Americans and will allow for many states to eliminate protections for pre-existing conditions. However the full implications of this repeal effort are not known, as this bill is being rushed to the floor without a complete analysis from the CBO. As Americans, we deserve better than this. As someone who was treated for cancer at a young age, the erosion of protections for pre-existing conditions are particularly threatening; and this is true for many Americans.

Please reject Graham-Cassidy-Heller,

Thank you,

Joshua Pierce

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** King Harvey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing

Dear Senate Committee on Finance Members,

Regarding Graham-Cassidy, please consider the cost of the downside: citizens without ready access to health care are likely going to come to hospital emergency rooms for all their essential treatment and with extreme conditions that they cannot pay for. Hospitals must treat them at cost to all of us.

Sincerely,  
King Harvey

[REDACTED]  
Concord, MA 01742

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Gina Bennett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

My mother relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. It seems selfish and horrific to pass a bill that would cause millions of hard working Americans to lose their coverage. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely, Gina  
Somerville, MA

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Valerie Strait [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** ACA

Hi,  
I benefit from the ACA. I am a single woman of 50. Without the ACA I would have not ben able to start my own gardening business 2 years ago. I have asthma, which under the Graham-Cassidy bill would be a pre existing condition. I do not think the ACA is perfect by any means, but why not stop wasting tax payers (my) time and money on trying to do something worse for the majority of Americans and cross over party lines and improve the ACA!!! Healthcare is a human right!  
Valerie Strait  
Brooklyn, NY

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Joan Yaffe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Healthcare Bill

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy healthcare bill. Any healthcare plan that eliminates Medicaid expansion, protections for those with pre-existing conditions, and hasn't been scored by the CBO is unacceptable. The American people want a bipartisan approach to repairing the ACA, not a repeal of it.

Thank you for your time,

Joan Yaffe

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Rastovic, Vanessa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:01 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comments to Finance Comm re: Graham-Cassidy

United States Senate

Finance Committee

09/25/2017

Honorable Senators:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. On behalf of ACHIEVA/The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh and its Disability Healthcare Initiative, we respectfully ask that you reject the bill in its current form.

These comments are submitted on behalf of ACHIEVA, an organization that supports more than 12,500 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families each year, making it one of Pennsylvania's largest disability organizations. ACHIEVA offers life-span services including early intervention for infants and toddlers, advocacy, family support, in home care, residential, employment, long term planning, and special needs trusts. ACHIEVA's Disability Healthcare Initiative is a nationally recognized policy and advocacy leader regarding improved access and education on oral health issues affecting people with disabilities. ACHIEVA and its Disability Healthcare Initiative are firmly committed to improving healthcare access for all Pennsylvanians with intellectual or developmental disabilities or autism. More broadly, we support enhanced healthcare access for those with the greatest needs throughout our Commonwealth.

The Graham-Cassidy bill, like previous bills to repeal health care that were already rejected this summer in the Senate, would have a devastating impact on America's families. Specifically, Graham-Cassidy would:

- Cause more than 30 million people to lose their health insurance—many of whom have disabilities but do not meet the Social Security Administration’s strict definition of “disabled.”
- Make devastating cuts to the expanded Medicaid program. Under Graham-Cassidy, the Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid expansion would end altogether by 2027, throwing millions of people off their coverage.
- Cap funding for the traditional Medicaid program, which provides vital care to seniors, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.
- Cut funding for the financial assistance that helps people purchase insurance through the Affordable Care Act’s insurance marketplaces.
- Allow states to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions and to end the requirements that insurers cover a set of essential health benefits like oral health services, prescription drugs, maternity care, and mental health care.

In short, if passed, the bill would be devastating for working and middle-class families with a child or other family member with a disability who rely on Medicaid and the ACA to keep their families healthy.

ACHIEVA/The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh and its Disability Healthcare Initiative are grateful for the opportunity to offer these comments and recommendations and respectfully ask that you protect access to healthcare for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities or autism by rejecting the Graham-Cassidy bill in its current form.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Rastovic, Esq.



"If you don't have a seat at the table, you are probably on the menu." -Senator Elizabeth Warren



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

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**From:** Allen E. Schaeffer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Cc:** Allen E. Schaeffer  
**Subject:** Healthcare Bill - Graham/Cassidy

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a citizen in rural Virginia, I find the thoughts, views, and rhetoric towards healthcare frustrating yet alarming. The area that I live in is comprised of people who are not of substantial wealth and a hotbed for retirees. The proposed Graham-Cassidy bill would detrimental to this area therefore should be an absolute no vote. Not only is the bill rushed, lacks debate, lacks bipartisan support, lacks a CBO score, creates limitation for Medicaid but also remains cloudy on protections for people. To add insult to injury the constant revisions to simply get votes only adds to the confusion and uncertainty of the bill's merits. Ultimately this would create financial problems on unprecedented levels for people affected.

Over the past several years Healthcare has been the epicenter of an overly debated topic of who benefits from what. With the current atmosphere surrounding Washington DC, the idea that the Affordable Care Act has been the primary problem for healthcare issues and how it is hurting people or families is mind blowing. With all the rhetoric floating around, I cannot fathom why people blame one bill for all the healthcare woes. The healthcare industry has been in disarray for decades with the for profit medical centers along with the insurance and pharmaceutical conglomerates being the biggest perpetrators of the problems due to the capitalist "status quo" mentality.

As an infant I had seen my fair share of struggles with medical care. Those memories along with family working in the medical field have given me a different viewpoint on the health care problems in this country. As much as I agree that healthy open markets will create healthy competition which eventually creates affordable choices. I also understand that by not holding insurance and pharmaceutical companies to the same standards and play by the same rules creates a downward spiral for a free market already in flux. Its greatest strength is also its greatest weakness.

I view the Affordable Care Act as a fundamental Cornerstone on legislation for people to get insurance that were once denied. I'm not saying that the legislation is perfect Healthcare for it has a few shortcomings that need to be addressed and fixed. Some people argue that the Affordable Care Act is imploding based off the shear design and implementation of the law. Others could also argue that the very foundations of the Affordable Care Act has been constantly undermined over the past 7 years through congressional procedures thus creating uncertainty and chaos in the markets. To be fair, I understand and will be the first to admit that the Affordable Care Act has its problems but for members of Congress to stand up and assert that it's imploding on itself without acknowledging the fact that it is also being sabotaged is ludicrous.

With that being said one of the first steps is admitting that there are problems. One of the biggest problems I have noticed with health care is that people are making it about left or right-leaning endeavors. The last time I checked diseases, genetics, physical/mental debilitations or ailments know no age, no gender, no race, no religion, or orientation thus classifying it as an equal opportunity hater.

The second biggest problem that I see with Healthcare centers on topics mostly being disgust from a male-dominant perspective with little insight and regard of female Healthcare options. As a male, either as a husband, father or son, I would want to incorporate their views and needs to construct a healthier and more beneficial system for everyone.

The third biggest problem I have noticed with healthcare is the overall lack of regard for people that are struggling with complex expenditures and its ripple effects. There are people in my area that have major health issues and fall into the pre-existing conditions category. Individuals or families who fall in this category can confirm that their medical issues have been inundated with medical bills ranging from low thousands up to a million dollars. Each medical issue is billed on their medical condition and the treatments, hospitalizations, and rehabilitations. There is a gentleman in the next county who suffers from muscular dystrophy. Since Christmas 2016 he has accumulated about half a million dollars in medical expenses and his current insurance company paying very little to zero of the costs. On average, the income per person ranges from \$25,000 to \$39,000 per year for this area and would take at least 12 to 15 years to pay for 8 months worth of costs if all living expenses were eliminated. Based on this situation, Individuals and surrounding people would be in financial ruin and not have a decent living.

The fourth problem I've noticed with Healthcare involves the sheer Integrity of politicians. Politicians will assert that changes to any new legislation will keep certain conditions but will tiptoe around questions pertaining to the language of the bill. As a country bumpkin I understand politicians tend to lie and make backroom deals therefore the proof is in the pudding. What does hold true is the language of the bill and the legal precedence it contains.

When it comes to healthcare there are several issues that continue to go unanswered but need to be addressed.

- Why are out-of-pocket costs for doctor's appointments and procedures cheaper than those involving insurance?
- Why do we have to continue paying family/primary doctors for office visits for specialist referrals? - it is a waste of money and counterintuitive
- since the ACA is still technically the law of the land, why are insurance companies still denying people with pre-existing conditions and not being held accountable for breaking the law?

- why do insurance companies approve major surgeries but do not approve simple procedures that are far more cost-efficient than going under the knife but yield the same results and have less recovery time?
- why do pharmaceutical companies continue to price gouge on life-saving drugs when their corporate CEOs and board members continue to rake in millions of dollars?
- Why aren't there more clinics to provide preventative screenings so people do not have to pay an office visit for every little procedure done?
- Why were patients not allowed to keep their doctors as originally promised and why there are so few insurance companies providing coverage options in rural areas?
- If insurance companies believe in providing more insurance options then why do they not allow patients to construct plans that better suit their needs?

The Affordable Care act has been law for 7 years now and there are areas that need to be fixed. There are some issues I think could be improved under the ACA. I compiled a list of solutions that could be incorporated to improve the ACA.

- create a written database that list the different diseases and conditions that are considered pre-existing conditions - this would prevent insurance companies from making their own classifications of pre-existing conditions
- have health insurance coverage that can travel with you out of state if you are on business or vacation.
- When it comes to pharmaceutical companies and prescription drugs eliminate the different tier drugs that have different prices for the same drug (gel capsules or tablets)
- if you want tackle issues with individuals and families premiums skyrocketing. Adjust the tax bracket so that it accommodates locations, family medical needs and cost of living expenses.
- create two brackets for deductibles. One bracket to cover major surgeries and hospitalizations and another bracket to cover doctor's visits, procedures and preventive care/screenings
- insurance companies have to expand network coverage areas

Thank you all for taking the time to listen to the American people.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Irene Carrollo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Care

Why do Republican members of congress think that they can decide all on their own how American taxpayer money can be spent? I want my taxes to go toward helping other Americans in need, not the rich 1 percent that have so much money they couldn't spend it in a hundred years. That is not your money!! It is not yours to give to your rich donors. We Americans work hard for our money and you corrupt MOC think you can just stick your greedy hands in our pockets and take what you want! I have never been politically active, but after having my eyes opened to the corruption of Republicans I am now totally involved. Multiply me by millions of people who were asleep but now have their eyes wide open. Start acting like Americans. Stop acting like greedy grifters who don't have to answer to Americans. You should all be ashamed of yourselves. P.S. We know that many of you Republicans have taken campaign money from Russians and are standing behind that criminal in the White House because you think he will protect you. It ain't gonna happen. The people are awake.

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Michael Young [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:14 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Upcoming Vote

This bill is atrocious and will kill people. It's shameful that it was even brought up for a vote.

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** zandermor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 5:16 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Adamantly Opposed to Graham Cassidy.

What you're proposing with this bill is an outrageous assault on the America people. You are behaving like Judas...because you believe the thirty pieces of silver.... that are actually dark money designed to keep you in office will win out. It will not. America is on to your tricks and your loyalty to your party before the good of the country. America first! Not the GOP, not Trump, not the Russian money to your campaigns, not to the lobbyists. What happened to our Congress? Shame on you.

Sandra Moriarity  
Glenmoore, PA 19343

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Peter Miller [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 7:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** DO NOT PASS THIS BILL OF DEATH

You,

Who have our best interests at heart! (I wish) You shall be held accountable now and in the future for the decisions you make in the name of All Americans.

If you pass this garbage truck of a bill and pass it. Your name and the names of your family will go down in history as has Hitler, Mussolini and other despots in history!

You do exactly what you called out at Obama, but much worse. Obama gave years of time and chance for working together! You, hide behind your doors. Insulting Americans everywhere do you really think you will be able to simply Walk away as if it Wasn't You who voted for this abomination? The American people are not as stupid as you think.

We are getting to the point now that you really should watch what you do.

You are not omnipotent, remember France. Not the France of today.... This is a real danger for Americans now. For the 1%.

Take my warning to heart.

Vote this abomination down.

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Grahan-Cassidy

Men making decisions about women's health continues to be one of the biggest hypocrisies of this country. Please stop this.

Women are not second class citizens. We are tax paying, voting, citizens who deserve the same options as men. Women and only women should make decisions about their healthcare. Do not rip coverage for issues unique to women out of healthcare coverage.

I won't be having more children. I also don't expect to need viagra. Stop the attach on women's health needs.

Ann Christopher  
Southlake, TX



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jill Thompson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Comments

Dear Senators,

I am a resident of Edwardsville, Illinois, and I am writing to ask you to speak out against the Cassidy-Graham Healthcare bill which, as proposed, will bring great harm to the citizens of the United States and to the state of Illinois.

I have a daughter with asthma and I am very concerned with the potential loss of protection for pre-existing conditions.

If this bill passes, Illinois will lose over \$1.4 billion dollars in Block Grant and Medicaid federal funding by 2026. We cannot afford this in our state!

Graham-Cassidy will destroy Medicaid as we know it by turning it 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 like Illinois that have expanded Medicaid.

I urge you to fight against this bill because of the harm that it will cause our nation's most vulnerable citizens. I just can't believe that this is who we are as a country.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts on this bill.

Sincerely,

Jill Thompson  
[REDACTED]  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Maureen Connor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

Honorable Senators:

I have followed the information regarding the Graham-Cassidy bill and urge all to vote NO. You must consider the overwhelming criticism of this bill from all the healthcare groups and insurance providers. Also, public polling indicates a majority are opposed to this bill. In short, there is very little support. Having working in healthcare nearly forty years, I understand the issues and find it appalling that a bill which is so negative and destructive is being seriously considered. It is also appalling that the Senate is proceeding without hearings, CBO information, and bipartisan development and support.

Regards,

Maureen Connor  
Pennsylvania resident

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Geoffrey Hughes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Anyone who would vote for this abomination is nothing more than a craven tool of the Republican donor class, who will be its only beneficiaries.

Geoffrey L. Hughes  
Arlington, Virginia  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mel Chua [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I am in opposition Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for your service. I imagine you are getting many messages like this right now, and I am glad for it - here is one more constituent voice to add to your count.

I am a born-and-bred American citizen from Illinois who now lives in Massachusetts. I'm also an engineer and educator from one of the best schools in the country -- and I have seen so many of my friends (hard-working, brilliant, well-educated STEM professionals) get hit by lack of health coverage and aided by the presence of it. Their energy and talent -- our energy and talent -- all the investment in our education, in our training -- goes to waste if we don't have a healthy body to go out and use the gifts that this country has cultivated in us.

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

Thank you.

Mel Chua  
Newton, MA  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sally Edelman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Healthcare

Dear Senators,

When you have reliable health insurance, as you do, and as I now do on Medicare it is easy to forget or not realize the destruction that poor or unaffordable health insurance can do to your family. My husband was a independent practicing physician. We carried our own private insurance and were lucky enough to be able to afford it until one of our children was diagnosed with juvenile arthritis. From that moment on we couldn't find an insurance company that would cover her even though she was not receiving treatment. The pre-existing rules that existed before the ACA made insuring our daughter impossible. We can not return to the days of millions of citizens being uninsured.

The ACA has many problems but it could be improved with honest bipartisan effort. That effort is your job. Now do it.

Sally Edelman

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Parth Patel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal  
**Attachments:** Hearing to Consider the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson Proposal.pdf

Hello,

I hope this message finds you well. I've attached my written comments to this email.

Best Regards,  
Parth

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**Parth R. Patel**

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Mike Crow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** GrahamCassidy

You guy really need to do something. I don't know if this is really the best solution or not.

But if you do the best you can with 51 votes, make an honest effort to improve healthcare, and promise that if we elect a few more Republicans, you'll actually fix this mess.

You might still be able to get re-elected the next time you're up for election.

Michael Crow

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Beth Hess [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:39 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** 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 devastating bill.

Sincerely,

M. Beth Hess

[REDACTED]  
College Park, MD 20740



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Douglas Rammer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Opposition to Graham Cassidy Bill  
**Attachments:** Vote No to Graham Cassidy Bill.docx

Douglas and Maxwell Rammer

[REDACTED]  
Janesville, WI 53545

To Whom It May Concern;

I would like to voice my strong opposition to the Graham-Cassidy Bill and any variant that will be presented this week in the Congress of the United States that re-orders Medicaid and nearly 16% of the without fully understanding the effects of the changes.

Less than six weeks ago, my eighteen year old son suffer an accident that resulted in him being paralyzed from the chest down. He is fortunate that his current and new future medical cost will be covered under my insurance policy. For a his C5-C6 spinal cord injury, his medical costs will range between \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, for the first year after the injury, and over \$115,000 annually for the rest of his adult life according to the Christopher Reeves Foundation.

Our efforts should be focused on his recovery and understanding in details of my current insurance, but we are spending some of this critical time trying to understand this latest hurried attempt to change healthcare policy in the United States by September 30<sup>th</sup>. As writers of the current bill, could you assist me with a couple of questions?

1. I understand that Medicaid was expanded to cover uninsured Americans, but as I understand the bill in the mid 2020's the funding will be capped or reduced. How will this reduction effect impact coverage of my son care? As a result of reduce funding, will I need to provide him assistance?
2. Will block granting monies back to the individual States limit the amount of coverage that my son will receive? Will health options be limited to the borders of the states? The best and most affordable treatment options are not found within each State. My son currently calls Janesville, Wisconsin his home but his initial rehabilitation is taking place at the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab in downtown Chicago. For economies of size, healthcare options should not be limited to state borders.
3. My son will need continual medical care that will easily exceed \$4,000,000 over this lifetime, according to the Reeves foundation. Can you assure me that health insurance companies will limit his lifetime spending caps or restrict this coverage?

4. It was my son's future goal to start a small business. As a potential small business owner with a spinal cord injury, will he have the opportunity to purchase affordable medical insurance because of high pre-existing condition?

5. Most of the businesses in the United States have a low number of employees. In the past "free market" health insurance market for these size companies is influence by the health condition of employees. After my father suffered a heart attack, the small business that he work for changed insurance covered annually and actually terminated him due to the increased medical costs associated with his health. He was rehired first as an independent contractor and later full time after the company was purchased by a larger company. Will these proposed changes have same impact my son's employment future as it did my fathers?

Above where a couple of question related to my son's conditions, I know that we would have more but our time is limited. While we can all agree that the current healthcare system has issues, let us as American work together to develop and understand the consequences of healthcare changes and not rush this process for short term political gains. Your decisions will affect millions of current and future American. I strongly encourage you to vote no on this current bill and work toward a bipartisan solution in the coming fiscal year.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott R. Cannon".

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Kim Mellen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy Comments

To Whom It May Concern,

Reading about Graham Cassidy has me scared for my family's health. There are too many unanswered questions.

What if my state does not require coverage for pre-existing conditions?

What if my state allows unaffordable premium increases for those with pre-existing conditions?

ACA, while not perfect, has allowed me to sleep better at night due to the pre-existing conditions requirements. If this is no longer the case, I am afraid. ACA could be made better. If there is one thing we know about Americans, is that we are quite capable of making things better. Make ACA better, don't destroy it!!

Kim Mellen

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Sue Broadbooks <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Honorable Member of the Finance Committee,

I have two points I want to raise about Graham-Cassidy. I will be as brief as possible.

1. I have a medical background in OB/Gyn which gives me some perspective on the risks of Graham-Cassidy for women in general. In particular, I am highly concerned by a scenario I see for the future of G-C. If women and families have less access to birth control, there will be increased unplanned pregnancies. Many will be faced with the option of premium subsidies for pregnancy that are unaffordable. I fear more will feel they have no financial choice but to proceed with abortion, as it would be less expensive than prenatal care. For those who continue their pregnancies, there will be those who forego prenatal care because of the expense. Lack of prenatal care causes increased pregnancy complications and preterm deliveries, both of which can have long-term increased medical costs to the family and increased costs to society.

2. On a personal note, I have an adult daughter with a multi-system genetic disorder called Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Despite this, she has been able to obtain a college education and is holding a job, but not one with health benefits. Currently she is under 26 years old, and I am VERY thankful that she can be on our insurance. I fear for when she turns 26 years old. I know so many educated young people who are unable to find work that offers health insurance. I fear that my daughter's pre-existing condition will preclude her from affording health insurance because of the exorbitant premium she will face with Graham-Cassidy.

Please, please, please...don't listen to just me. Listen to all the major health organizations and patient advocate organizations who oppose Graham-Cassidy. This bill is horrific for Americans.

Sincerely,  
Susan Broadbooks  
Ankeny, Iowa

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy hearing, Monday, Sept. 25

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill. I was born with Chronic Kidney Disease and have battled this chronic disease my whole life. I also was a public school teacher for 30 years. I lived on dialysis then received a kidney transplant in 2004 that saved my life thanks to my employer-based healthcare. If I had not had private health insurance, I might not be here today to send this email. I would like to see every person in the US have access to some sort of quality healthcare. Please focus all of your efforts on improving healthcare for every US citizen. This is one of the most important issues to me in our country right now. I would like to see a bipartisan Congressional effort to improve the ACA, not repeal it.

Sincerely,

Beth Holloman

[REDACTED]  
Raleigh, NC 27615

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Leslie Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 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.

Leslie Adams  
Overland Park, KS

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Jessica Matsko [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy comments

Members of the Finance Committee:

I am opposed to the Graham-Cassidy bill and any other bill that does not provide affordable access to healthcare or restricts Medicare.

This bill will cost our states and our country a significant amount of money, according to all reports, although precisely how much is unclear, since no CBO score has been provided.

Beyond the economic impact, the cost to individual citizens will be terrible. No one should have to forgo treatment because they cannot afford it; no one should have to choose between buying food or buying medicine; and no one should be forced into bankruptcy due to illness.

Unless this bill is amended to specifically define what "affordable" healthcare means, these things will happen.

The examples above are not generalities. In my family, I have several relatives who are cancer patients/survivors or have a chronic illness.

Any cuts to Medicaid, any lifetime caps on care would result in significant problems for them. These are middle-class, hardworking people who worked hard and raised families before their illnesses and don't deserve to have their pockets empty by an inefficient and grasping healthcare system.

Further, the Graham-Cassidy bill will further destabilize the markets for insurance, placing a strain on small businesses in particular who want to provide coverage for their employees and shoving that burden onto those who can least afford it.

In conclusion, let me quote our founding fathers: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." How can we uphold these beliefs if we are bankrupting our own hard-working citizens for being ill?

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica L. Matsko  
United States Citizen

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Lori Siegler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

Dear Senators,

I beg of please do not enact this bill the number of people that will be hurt is staggering. My son included. My son is on the autism spectrum, if you allow this bill to go through I will not be able to afford the health care he needs in order to be a functional member of society. He is able to hold down a minimum wage job right now if he loses his health care he will not get the medications he needs to regulate his health or anxiety and will end up losing his job. PLEASE!!! Think about this when making your decision.

Sincerely,  
Lori Siegler

Sent from my iPhone



## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Mary McLaughlin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senators,

I urge you to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy.

As the parent of a young man who has both cerebral palsy and autism, I am frightened for his future if current guarantees for his medical care are repealed. Graham-Cassidy would leave him, and so many others like him, dangerously vulnerable. Its draconian cuts to Medicaid will leave our most vulnerable citizens - most those who are elderly or disabled - without the lifeline they so desperately need to be able to live and work in their communities, where they belong.

This isn't about politics. It's about Americans like my son, and our responsibility to them.

Please VOTE NO ON GRAHAM-CASSIDY.

Sincerely,

Mary McLaughlin  
[REDACTED]

New London, NH 03257

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jenny Reese [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** NO on Graham Cassidy

I am a pediatrician and I vote. VOTE NO on Graham Cassidy. Keep kids Covered. Don't make our population suffer.  
Jennifer Reese MD  
Denver CO 80238

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care bill

My family relies on quality, affordable healthcare. It has been invaluable to me in helping my younger daughter who has a pre-existing condition. Because of this, I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

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

Sincerely,  
Suzan Graiser  
Horse Branch, Kentucky

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Richard Hoffman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** 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,

Richard Hoffman  
Hartsdale, NY '

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Tamara Oxley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Regarding Graham-Cassidy plan

I am a 40-year-old American citizen and I have been paying taxes since I was 15 years old when I got my first real job. Despite the fact that I have regularly contributed a portion of my earned salary to state and federal government, it seems that government leaders rarely want to hear what people like me would like done with our money.

In case anyone is listening, here is what people like me want to be contributing to: quality public education for all children (despite the fact that I do not have kids) and access to quality and affordable healthcare for all Americans (despite the fact that I am healthy). This country should only concern itself with efforts that support the many, rather than the few. As a party, Republicans repeatedly fail the country in that regard.

American citizens, young and old, are struggling every day with pre-existing conditions and complicated diseases. They rely on the ACA and on Medicaid for the healthcare that they need and DESERVE as American citizens. Any changes made to those programs should be as bipartisan Congressional efforts to improve them, not destroy them.

Be better leaders.

Sincerely,

Tamara Oxley  
Durham, North Carolina

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Anne Rosenberg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:38 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Graham-Cassidy Bill

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am concerned about the Graham-Cassidy-Heller-Johnson proposal currently being pushed through the Senate because millions of Americans will lose access to health care. This craven act will cut services to those with preexisting conditions, addictions, and mental health problems, among many other diagnoses. As a former Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner, states will be able to limit or deny coverage for prenatal care. The U.S. has an abominably high rate of neonatal and maternal morbidity and mortality, and this will add to it. As you are the same people who oppose abortion rights, it makes no sense that you would also avert your eyes from the possibility of sub-par prenatal services. In addition, the exclusion of preexisting conditions affects every single one of us-if not directly, then by virtue of having families who will be affected. Rather than attempting to destroy the ACA just because it was passed by Democrats, try doing the right thing for your constituents.

Anne Rosenberg

19004  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy

Dear Senate Finance Committee, Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Bill Nelson

I'm the mother of a 19 year old son named Chase. Chase is a good son and has never been in trouble with the law. Chase has faced hardships his whole life. He was born at 24 weeks and only weighed 1 lb 8 oz. His survival was a struggle but he made it. As for his physical health he has made many strides and overcame obstacles. He has a mild learning disability and a mild hearing loss. By the grace of God he graduated this past May from High School with a regular diploma. The above is only the beginning of Chase's struggles. While in middle school he became very depressed and threatened suicide. He was baker acted. At 13 we started on our journey of getting him all the help we could provide him. He sees a psychiatrist, takes medication and sees a counselor. As a family we rally behind him. We also have a 21 year old daughter Lindsey that has lifelong since birth disabilities. She relies on Medicaid. Due to Lindsey's disabilities and Chase's mental illness he has now been diagnosed with Bipolar and a anxiety disorder I can not work outside my home. Lindsey requires around the clock care and both have many appointments and daily needs. My husband is also self employed so he can have more flexibility to help. We rely on the ACA and Medicaid for our healthcare. We have found it to be affordable and has covered our needs. Chase's medication is covered. Without the ACA we would be paying \$800.00 per month for his medication. His Psychiatrist would be \$150.00 per visit. His counseling would be at least \$125.00 per session. These things are now covered for a low co-pay. Our premium now is lower than it was when we had private insurance that didn't cover mental health issues. With my ACA plan I have not had treatment denied due to my pre existing condition of high blood pressure. My husband has not been denied coverage because he is a cancer survivor. I have not had to pay more because I'm a women and neither my husband or I have had to pay more due to being over 59 years old, but not old enough for Medicare. If our family loses our ACA plan and Medicaid we will be wiped out financially. If mental illness coverage is not made available through any new proposal Chase could very well die. Our whole family has pre existing conditions and without those conditions being treated and covered under a affordable rate I can't even imagine the severity of the hardship. Please for the sake of my children please do not vote yes on the Graham Cassidy Heathcare legislation. I can't imagine my family surviving anymore hardships.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Rhea Campbell

Lindsey and Chase's mom

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Peg Indexer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** the Graham-Cassidy bill

Dear public servants:

This attempt to repeal the ACA is disgraceful. It demonstrates an ignorance (or worse, willful misunderstanding) of how insurance works that would be embarrassing for a schoolchild, let alone adults entrusted with the health, wealth, and happiness of the American people. Many people have no choice but to live in states not of their choosing, because of ill or aging relatives or job requirements or other non-negotiable factors. To tailor the bill to AK, AZ, and KY to facilitate passage of a bill that is so appalling that every prominent patient advocacy and public health group has spoken against it is a blatant show of contempt for public welfare and a disregard of everyday reality, as well as utterly un-Christian behavior.

I pray for true efforts to improve the ACA, for punishment of those sabotaging it, and for an end to the circus of repeal proposals that show so much malice and so little sense of justice for all.

Sincerely,  
Peggy L. Duthie



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Julie Grahame [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill Hearing

Graham-Cassidy Bill Hearing  
September 25, 2017  
Julie Grahame

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11222

Before I had access to the Affordable Care Act, I was paying \$850 per month for insurance to cover me and my freelance husband. When I needed a joint replacement, the surgery cost me \$20,000. One joint replacement, one time, could have put me in bankruptcy.

It seems sponsors of this bill would be happy to go back to this being the case. Yet you all have great insurance, so why are you so interested in taking what little we ever had away from us?

Please, work on a bipartisan basis to IMPROVE ACA.  
WE are dying out here.  
YOU are making decisions that affect millions **without listening to us.**

Look at the polls - you are against public opinion WE WANT THE ACA!!

Make the right choice for your countrymen's sake, please take care of us don't kill us.

Julie Grahame

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** garyandmarge [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose Graham-Cassidy-Heller

Finance Committee,

Please do not pass the GCH bill. The bill would create chaos in the insurance market and unneeded misery for so very many people. People's lives should not be experiments for greed and financial benefits to some.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Dobry  
Brighton, MI

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Bob ISRAEL [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** OPPOSE Graham-Cassidy-Heller

**Senate Finance Committee,**

**I URGE you to REJECT Graham-Cassidy-Heller in favor of the bi-partisan bill the Senate HELP Committee was considering. Graham-Cassidy-Heller would cause 32 MILLION people to lose their health care coverage while destroying Medicaid and harming some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, SENIORS and people with diabetes.**

**Robert Israel  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Hall, Kathryn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy Bill

To Whom It May Concern:

Please do not approve the Graham Cassidy Bill that would take away my protections for a person with disabilities and pre-existing conditions. I work full time for the state of Massachusetts helping other people with disabilities become gainfully employed. The only reason I can work full time is my agency provides me with reasonable accommodations for my back and neck injuries from a motor vehicle accident. The driver of the pick-up truck hit my vehicle while I was waiting to turn into my driveway at home. He was doing his business paperwork and not paying attention and hit me while traveling around 50 miles per hour. I lived with extreme pain for five years until it was diagnosed that my head was not sitting on my neck properly, my upper back bowed outward and my lower spine was twisted in two spots. It was only through healthcare and treatment that my spine was realigned and I was able to begin working again. I have ongoing health care problems and the protection for pre-existing conditions allows me continued medical treatment that will be necessary for the rest of my life. If I am unable to get this treatment of chiropractor, acupuncture, and health care services I will be unable to continue working and will have to apply for Social Security Disability benefits. I would rather be a contributing, working member of society. Please do not vote for the Graham Cassidy Bill. Thank you,

Kathryn Hall  
[REDACTED]

## Wright, Kevin (Finance)

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**From:** Victoria Barnett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care repeal bill

Dear Committee members:

I write you as a US citizen who deeply loves her country, as a parent and grandparent, and as someone who has had her share of health concerns over the years. My extended family includes Republicans and Democrats; I love them all.

I also lived in Germany for 13 years and had a chance to see what a well-run health system looks like. My son was born there with heart problems and received wonderful care. We had some co-pays but it was very manageable and I will always be grateful -- and ever since then I have had trouble understanding why every other developed country has a functioning, affordable, stable system for health care and we don't.

I believe the American people would understand (and welcome) a thoughtful, careful bill that addresses and corrects the problems in the ACA and does so in a financially responsible and permanent way. That will take time, but I think people understand that. To push through a bill without due process and without thorough financial review is so irresponsible; it would simply force the next Congress to deal with this problem yet again.

This is not a moment for scoring political points or for playing with the lives of people with health issues. Please stop the Graham-Cassidy bill, put aside your differences and show some leadership. Please begin working together to come up with a bipartisan solution for this that is financially responsible. That would do so much at this moment to reassure the country, not just with respect to health care, but in general.

Thank you for your consideration.

yours truly,

Victoria Barnett

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** kara reinhardt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 7:37 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. We cannot afford this, nor should we tolerate this.

Kara Reinhardt Block, MD  
Wellesley, MA

Sent from my iPhone

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Jacob Barss-Bailey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Comment on H.R.1628

Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am a voting resident of California, and have several concerns re: H.R.1628, aka the Graham-Cassidy Bill.

1. This bill will rewrite the rules for 1/8th–1/6th of our national economy without a clear understanding of this bill's likely financial impact. Is there a convincing justification for such a profoundly risky change?
2. This bill pushes all 50 states to essentially create their own healthcare systems in a period of under two years. This has never been achieved by anybody, anywhere, and I'm concerned that you are setting up your quasi-federalist goals for failure.
3. By what little analysis is currently available, H.R.1628 will kill people and drive millions into personal bankruptcy. Please consider that destroying lives is perhaps not the best outcome for health care reform.

I have other financial concerns, what I'm actually concerned about is that you are actively considering a bill designed to kill people and destroy the lives of me, my family, and my neighbors. If my appeal to basic financial risk isn't worth your attention, perhaps at a personal level, you'd as a fellow human consider not trying to bury people any faster than we already are.

Cheers,  
Jacob Barss-Bailey

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Wayne Pan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham-Cassidy bill

This should not be supported by any decent human being. It is making a mockery of the hard work that real reformers are doing to try to make healthcare both affordable and available to everyone. Just because you campaigned on repealing Obamacare doesn't mean you just pass any healthcare bill to "replace it." This is ludicrous and so-called Senators Graham and Cassidy should be ashamed of themselves.

Grow some balls, republicans. Do the hard work and get a real bill to the floor, and yes, you have to grow up and work with the Democrats too.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Pan  
Oakland, California



**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Jennifer Hamerstadt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:27 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

I have been unemployed for the past year and am very thankful that I have had quality insurance under the ACA. It is a fact that the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill would make devastating cuts to subsidies, Medicaid, and would weaken consumer protections. I would be terrified right now if I had a pre-existing condition. I strongly oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill and urge you to KEEP the ACA and FIX the parts of the ACA that need fixing!

Thank you,  
Jennifer Hamerstadt  
Cincinnati Ohio 45244

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** GRACE LEE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Graham Cassidy bill

*Members of the Senate Finance Committee,*

*As a physician who cares deeply about the ability of America's patients to access the care they need, I write in opposition to the Graham-Cassidy bill to replace the ACA. This bill is just as bad as the ACA repeal efforts that came before. My home state has worked hard to improve the well-being of its residents, and this bill would clearly undo many of the gains that we have worked hard to achieve over the years.*

*Any physician knows that when it comes to our patients, coverage doesn't always mean care. By overturning protections for patients with preexisting conditions and by slashing coverage of essential health benefits, this bill would leave too many patients between the cracks – especially the most vulnerable.*

*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.*

*John McCain has it right. We need to protect those who are less fortunate than us. The elderly, poor, disabled, and sick children need our support. Hospitals and doctor's offices are closing at an alarming rate due to lack of funding. We cannot continue to attack the medical system and the patients unless we want a third world type of health care.*

*Thank you,*

*G. Lee, M.D.*

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sandy Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health care

I have a pre-existing condition and am very opposed to Graham/Cassidy. I would love to see a bipartisan fix to the ACA.

Thank you,  
Sandy Brendel

**Wright, Kevin (Finance)**

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**From:** Sara Schultz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 23, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** gchcomments  
**Subject:** Health Bill

I would like to see an improved ACA, not a repeal and replacement. If we supported and improved the plan that is already providing insurance to millions of Americans it would be more efficient and more humane than replacing with a plan that will hurt so many Americans. This is common sense and patriotic. Anything less is a farce. Sara Schultz, Buffalo, NY 14221-5420

"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."

Elie Wiesel

*Sara Schultz*

[REDACTED]